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# Placer County Treasury Exceeds Half-Billion in Deposits

December 20, 2000

Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector Jenine Windeshausen announced today that the amount on deposit in the County Treasury exceeded one half billion dollars (\$500,000) for the first time. The December installment of property taxes resulted in a \$106.6 million dollar increase in the County Treasury since December 1st, the time period when the majority of the first installments of property taxes are received. The balance on deposit in the County Treasury will reach its annual peak after the second property tax installment is received in April. After the second installment, local government revenues dip significantly until the following December. During this time, the tax payments collected in December and April are drawn upon to provide various services to Placer County residents. The taxpayer money on deposit in the County Treasury is used by various local government agencies including the County, school districts and various special districts to provide services such as law enforcement, education, road maintenance, and health and human services.

The County Treasurer is responsible for investing the money until it is needed for use by the many local agencies whose money is held in the County Treasury. "We take the fiduciary stewardship of hard-earned taxpayer money very seriously, and we are very proud of our record of protecting the principal while earning additional money for taxpayer services," said Windeshausen. "Last year over \$21 million in earnings from investments went to provide additional services to Placer County residents."

Windeshausen noted that the size of the Treasury has grown 500% since she began working in the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office almost 14 years ago. She said, "the Treasury had just exceeded \$100 million for the first time just before I came to work in the Treasurer's office." Windeshausen added that the increase in the size of the County Treasury is another measure of the extraordinary growth that Placer County has continued to realize over the past ten to fifteen years.



### **Kemper Road Closed Temporarily for Reconstruction**

Dec. 20, 2000

Kemper Road will be closed between Bean Road and Country Villa Court for up to three weeks as work crews continue to reconstruct the road and relocate utilities, subject to work schedule changes due to weather. Motorists should use Atwood Road as an alternate route.



#### **Recycling Your Christmas Tree**

December 15, 2000 - Placer County Farm and Home Advisor

Information on caring for your live Christmas tree

When Christmas is over, make sure your tree doesn't end up in a landfill. Trees are compostable and make fine garden mulch. The University of California Cooperative Extension/Placer County Master Composters and the Placer County Department of Facility Services make it easy to recycle your tree. Compost it yourself at home, or take it to one of the following drop-off sites to be ground into mulch. Recycling your tree is **free** at any of the sites listed below.

Check the dates and times carefully, as well as other special requirements. Where there are specific dates and times, a dumpster or chipping operation will be available only at that time. Tinsel and stands must be removed from trees.

This special Christmas tree disposal service is sponsored by Auburn-Placer Disposal Service, Boy Scout Troop 121, City of Lincoln, City of Rocklin, City of Roseville, Del Oro High School, Meadow Vista Tree Farm, Placer County Department of Facility Services, Tahoe Truckee Disposal, and the University of California Cooperative Extension/Placer County Master Composters.

Schedule for 2000 Christmas Tree Disposal			
Community	Dates/Times	Location/Address	
Auburn	December 26 thru January 15 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p. m.	Auburn-Placer Transfer Station, 12305 Shale Ridge Road	

Colfax (Colfax residents ONLY, please)	January 8 thru January 12	Trees will be collected during regular garbage collection. <i>Must be cut in three-foot lengths</i> . <i>NO flocked trees</i> .
Granite Bay	December 30 and 31, and January 6 and 7 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p. m.	Miners Ravine Park 7530 Auburn-Folsom Road
Granite Bay	January 6 – 7 ONLY 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p. m.	Wilma Cavitt School, 7200 Fuller Dr Contact Bruce McCormick at (916) 791- 4639 to arrange pickup, \$5.00 for curbside tree pick-up, \$2 for tree drop-off.
Lincoln	December 26 thru January 25, M-F, Dawn to Dusk	McBean Park, Highway 193, Lincoln
Loomis	December 30 and 31, and January 6 and 7, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p. m.	Del Oro High School (back entrance) Near intersection King and Boyington Roads, and through gate
Meadow Vista	December 26 thru January 13	Meadow Vista Tree Farm, Meadow Vista Road off Placer Hills Road
Rocklin (Rocklin residents ONLY, please)	December 29 thru January 5	Twin Oaks Park, 5500 Park (Stanford Ranch area) and Corner Lot of 3rd, 5th, and Farron near Johnson-Springview Park
Roseville (Roseville residents ONLY, please)	December 30 and January 6 ONLY 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p. m.	Maidu Community Center, 1550 Maidu Drive and City Corporation Yard, 2005 Hilltop Circle (off PFE Road)

Check the dates and times carefully, as well as other special requirements. Where there are specific dates and times, a dumpster or chipping operation will be available only at that time. Tinsel and stands must be removed from trees.

If you would like further information about this program or you would like to receive information about composting, contact the Placer County UC Master Composter "ROTLINE" at (530) 889-7399, or check out the Master Composter section, part of the Placer County UC Cooperative Extension web site.

Recycling Your Christmas Tree -- Placer County, Calif.

## MARTHA E. JACOBY Program Representative



# Memo. of Understanding Could Help Upgrade Sierra College Boulevard

Dec. 14, 2000 (updated 12/21/00)

On Tuesday, December 19, Placer County Supervisors reviewed for the first time a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which, if approved regionally, could result in major improvements to Sierra College Boulevard, a county highway which links several South Placer County communities.

The County of Placer, the Cities of Rocklin and Lincoln, and the Town of Loomis have been working to develop a regional approach for improvements which would extend from the intersection with Hwy. 193 to the southern Rocklin city limit at the Highlands, which is on the flat atop the bluffs overlooking Granite Bay, Roseville and Rocklin.

Additional traffic lanes, traffic signals and a new interchange at Interstate 80 could be the result if this proposed regional approach to constructing and financing \$30 million in improvements is ultimately adopted by the jurisdictions. County Public Works staff presented information on the MOU and the Board discussed the matter.

"The MOU represents an example of how jurisdictions can come together to solve problems that cross community boundaries," observed District 4 Supervisor Jim Williams. "The citizens we represent seldom notice the boundaries. What they care about is whether we solve the problems."

The draft MOU is being circulated for comment. To obtain a copy of the proposal, contact the Placer County Public Works Department at 530-889-7579 or the city in which you reside. You may submit comments on it until Jan. 12, 2001. The Board has tentatively planned to review the MOU again in February, 2001.



#### **Care of Fresh Christmas Trees**

December 8, 2000 - Placer County Farm and Home Advisor



Consumers should always check carefully for freshness of trees on retail lots, because the length of time since cutting and the way the trees have been handled can greatly influence how well they will hold their needles and fragrance once they are put up in the home. Many families purchase trees at choose-and-cut farms where there is no need to question the freshness of a tree that you cut down.

Information on recycling your live Christmas tree

#### **Tips for Care at Home**

Once you have returned safely home with your Christmas tree, its continued freshness depends upon the type of care you provide. The tree should have a fresh cut across the bottom, about one-inch above the old base. This removes any clogged wood that may not readily absorb water. Next, the tree should be placed in a stand with a large reservoir of water and located in the room. Depending upon the size, species, and location of the tree, it may absorb a gallon of water in the first day, so it should be checked frequently and rewatered as necessary.



Although some people advocate placing various substances in the water to preserve freshness, it is recommend that consumers simply keep the tree well-watered with pure tap water. Avoid putting into the



water compounds such as sugar, aspirin, and other chemicals. These have not proven to work and often can inhibit the tree's intake of water and actually cause it to be more of a hazard.

As long as the tree is able to absorb and transpire water, it is reasonably fire-resistant. It is important that the tree always be kept watered and not allowed to dry out. If the tree does become dried out, it may not be able to adequately absorb moisture once it is re-watered, and it will shed its needles prematurely. Taking the tree down and cutting about a one-inch slice off the bottom of the trunk, then replacing the tree in the stand and re-watering, may remedy this problem. Although inconvenient, it is the only way to prevent early needle loss. Overall, a good rule of thumb is to treat a green Christmas tree just like a fresh bouquet of cut flowers.

The Christmas tree should be located in a safe place, preferably near a wall or corner where it is not likely to be knocked over. Keeping the tree away from heat sources such as hot air ducts, wood stoves, fireplaces, etc., will help to preserve freshness and lessen fire danger. Similarly, light cords and connections used in decorating the tree should be in good working condition. Lights should always be turned off at bedtime or when leaving for an extended period of time.

Fresh, well-watered Christmas trees do not represent a fire hazard. Trees that are dried out, however, do. In public buildings it is often advisable to spray the trees with a fire retardant. In fact, in many locations this is necessary for insurance purposes. In the home, however, the best fire retardant is to keep the tree supplied with plenty of water.

Finally, when the holidays are over, be sure to <u>recycle your Christmas tree</u>. Don't let it end up in a landfill!

MARTHA E. JACOBY Program Representative



### Proposed Teichert Aggregate Facility Revised Environmental Documents Available

12/6/00; updated 7/21/03

The Placer County Planning Department has announced that revised chapters for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (the EIR) for the proposed Teichert Aggregate Facility are available for public review. The proposed project would produce sand, gravel and granite, and would also have a plant to produce concrete and asphalt products. It would be located about 4 miles north of the City of Lincoln, west of Gladding Road and south of Riosa Road.

The public can review copies of the Draft EIR, including the revised chapters and technical appendices, at these locations:

- Planning Department public counter, 11414 B Avenue, Auburn
- City of Lincoln Public Library, 590 5th Street, Lincoln
- Auburn-Placer County Library, 350 Nevada Street, Auburn
- Loomis County Library, 6050 Library Drive, Loomis
- Roseville Public Library, 225 Taylor Street, Roseville

To learn more about the project, the public may also attend monthly meetings of the <u>Rural Lincoln Municipal Advisory Council</u> on the third Monday of each month at 7 PM at the Mount Pleasant Hall, 3333 Mt. Pleasant Road, in Lincoln. Confirm meeting dates and times with the Board of Supervisors' office at 530-889-4010.

The revised Draft EIR includes the introduction, the project description, the executive summary, and the project's land use plans and policies, agricultural resources, traffic, air quality, noise, water resources, public health and safety, an analysis of alternatives, and a cumulative analysis of the project's environmental impact.

The deadline for submitting comments on the revised Draft EIR chapters is 5 PM on Friday, January 26, 2001. Comments must be submitted in writing to Thomas D. Kubik, Associate Planner, at the Placer County Planning Department, 11414 B Avenue, Auburn,



CA 95603.

Further information on the project is available by calling the Planning Department at 530-889-7470.



### **County Executive Announces Retirement**

Dec. 5, 2000

Today Placer County Executive Officer Don Lunsford announced his intention to retire early in the spring of 2001.

Acting on today's announcement, the Board of Supervisors met in closed session to begin plans for appointing a successor.

"It has been an honor to serve the people of this wonderful county for the past 27 years," Lunsford said in his letter. "As their representatives, you and your predecessors have brought vision and strength to our county government. You are blessed with a work force of over 2,500 dedicated and caring individuals who, day in and day out, with little recognition, deliver high quality, efficient services to the public. With your continued leadership, this agency is well positioned to successfully face the future challenges placed before it. I hope I have in some way contributed to that success."

Lunsford, who has lived in Loomis area since childhood, began his County career in 1973, working as a District Representative primarily with District 4 Supervisor Mike Lee. In 1979 he was named to one of two County Administrator positions, and became LAFCO Executive in 1983.

He was appointed County Executive Officer in 1985, and will have served more than 20 different Supervisors during his career, with the longest tenure of any Placer County administrative officer. Major challenges have included two recessions, severe cutbacks following Proposition 13, and growth, which has nearly tripled Placer's population since 1973. He oversees an annual budget of more than \$285 million, with the county responsible for providing a broad array of services to nearly 240,000 people including more than half who live in cities.

"When I first met Don I was impressed, and my respect for him has continued to increase over the years," said Chairman Harriet White. "He is a very knowledgeable and his skills have been used to the great benefit of the people of Placer County. Under his leadership

County Executive Announces Retirement -- Placer County, Calif.

Placer County has blossomed into a self sufficient regional economy whose residents enjoy an outstanding quality of life."

Don and his wife Betty have two grown children and look forward to fishing, traveling and other outdoor recreation.



#### **Desserts and Donors Sought**

Dec. 5, 2000

The holiday season places a strain on area blood supplies, just when the need is the greatest. The community is invited to help Placer County employees donate blood and also participate in the first-ever "dessert challenge."

You can donate blood on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 19 and 20, at the Multipurpose Senior Center from 9 to 3, with this season's effort entitled "Share the Gift, Bring a Friend".

But there'll be an added attraction: an array of delectable desserts waiting for donors to enjoy after they give blood. Homemade holiday treats, created by those who enter into the "dessert challenge", will be judged by Linda Oddo, Sheriff Ed Bonner, Undersheriff Steve D'Arcy, Dr. Richard Burton, and Facility Services Director Tom Miller. Winners will earn prizes including a one-night stay at Emma's Bed and Breakfast in Loomis, and dinners at Dingus McGee's and Giovanni's restaurants in Colfax.

Everyone who registers to donate blood will receive a coupon for a pint of Baskin Robbins ice cream and will be eligible to spin for prizes donated by local merchants. Please call 530-886-4886 to register for an appointment. Don't forget to eat and drink before you come, and to bring a photo identification.

Call Michele Zavoras at 530-889-4340 by Dec. 14 to register for the dessert challenge. You must turn in the dessert on Tuesday, Dec. 19 between 7:30 and 8 a.m.

Placer County employees have so far donated more than 1,100 pints of blood during county blood drives. "Blood donations save lives, and are always needed, but particularly during holiday seasons," said Doreen Harper, County Blood Drive Chairman. "Please come and give the gift of life – then you'll have an excellent excuse to enjoy our scrumptious desserts."



#### **Board Names New Auditor-Controller**

Dec. 5, 2000

Katherine Martinis, Countywide Budget Coordinator for the Alameda County Administrator's Office, has been named Placer County Auditor-Controller by the Board of Supervisors. She will be eligible to hold the position through January of 2003.

Though the position is normally an elective position with a four-year term of office, Supervisors appointed Martinis to fill out the unexpired term of Auditor-Controller Kimbuck Williams, who retired earlier this year. Voters will make their next decision in 2002.

Supervisors made their decision shortly after an unusual public session in which they interviewed four candidates and listened to members of the public offer testimonials. Other pre-qualified applicants who were interviewed included David Irwin, Jr., Assistant Auditor-Controller; E. Ken Tokutomi, Senior Partner, Tokutomi and Caruthers, Accountants LLP; and Hall Hall, Senior Vice President Internal Audit Manager for El Dorado Savings Bank.

Irwin had added a stipulation that he be allowed to return to his position as Assistant Auditor-Controller should he be appointed but not be elected in 2002. Board members indicated they could not meet this requirement.

Prior to her current position as Budget Coordinator, Katherine Martinis served as Senior Supervising Auditor in the Alameda County Auditor-Controller's Office. She is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Internal Auditor, graduating from California State University (Hayward) with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration/Accounting.

Asked why she applied for the job, Martinis listed three reasons. "I want to get back into accounting," she said. "I also believe that government needs good systems and innovative accounting personnel. And frankly I wanted to move to this beautiful county away from the hustle and bustle of the Bay Area. You live in paradise."

Her plans to be sworn in and to begin work are still uncertain.



#### Supervisor Bloomfield to Host Coffee at Colfax Library

12/4/00

Supervisor Rex Bloomfield has invited local residents to a coffee at noon at the Colfax Library on Tuesday, December 12, to discuss residents' interests and concerns.

Describing himself as "newly energized" to begin a third term in January, District 5 Supervisor Rex Bloomfield has been holding a series of informal community meetings to spend time with residents and to gather information about the issues they feel are most important.

Even though Supervisor Bloomfield regularly attends the monthly meetings of the Weimar/Applegate/Colfax Municipal Advisory Council, he hopes the library coffee will provide a less formal atmosphere and a better opportunity for conversation on any subject. He's particularly hoping for community input on several key issues, including fire safety, open space protection, and the growing need for new county facilities to replace the aging DeWitt Center.

While the coffee klatches and MAC meetings offer easy access to provide information to Supervisors and county staff, Supervisor Bloomfield notes that residents can also contact him on any subject by email to bloomfield@foothill.net, or by mail to 175 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn, CA 95603. Further information on the <a href="Weimar/Applegate/Colfax">Weimar/Applegate/Colfax</a></a>
<a href="Municipal Advisory Council">Municipal Advisory Council</a> is available, or you may call the Board office, 530-889-4010. "Improving communication is usually the first step to solving problems," he said. "I hope residents will attend to help us better understand their needs on any topic."



#### Dog Bar Bridge To Be Closed for Maintenance

December 4, 2000

The Placer County Department of Public Works, in a joint venture with Nevada County, will be replacing the deck of the Dog Bar Bridge, which crosses the Bear River below Colfax. Nevada County will be the lead agency in coordination efforts with the contractor.

Replacing the decking will extend the life of the bridge. The bridge will be closed for construction approximately two weeks, from Monday, Dec. 11 to Tuesday, December 26. Schedules can change due to weather and equipment conditions, however signs will be posted whenever possible to alert motorists to changes. Motorists should plan alternate routes.

The routine maintenance work, which will not enlarge the bridge, also includes replacement of the bridge guardrails. For further information, call the county road construction office, at 530-889-7558.



### **Get Correct "Burn Day" Information**

#### **November 28, 2000**

Last week the Placer County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) unveiled its new phone information system, which provides current burn day information to Placer County residents. The new system provides burn day information for three geographical areas of Placer County: the Lake Tahoe area, Eastern Placer County (from Cisco Grove and eastward) and Western Placer County.

For burn day information within 12 miles of Auburn, call (530) 889-6868; in all other areas call 1-800-998-BURN (2876). Burn requirements differ in the three different county areas. For example, The Lake Tahoe and Eastern Placer County areas have restrictions on burn times. The APCD hopes the new system will help reduce confusion about different district burn requirements.

The new phone information system also provides information on what can be legally burned in burn piles. The APCD changed its burn rules in October of this year. Legally burnable materials are dry leaves and pine needles, dry plants, dry tree trimmings, dry cardboard, dry paper and dry weeds. The APCD removed lawn clippings from the legally-burnable list because they generate intense smoke when burned.

"Smoke knows no boundaries," said Air Quality Planner Ann Hobbs. "By eliminating lawn clippings from the list of burnable items and stressing that all material must be dry prior to burning, we hope to reduce air pollution caused by burning. We also hope those who burn will follow the rules. And for those people caught violating the burn rules, the APCD will take appropriate enforcement action."

In addition, the new phone system provides information on other related topics, like non-residential burn permits, fire safety, a free residential chipping program, the UC Master Composters "Rotline" information and how a burn day is determined.

"Our burn days are established based on the impact to air quality," said Hobbs. "Along with air quality concerns, residents must also observe burn policies required by the fire

Get Correct "Burn Day" Information -- Placer County, Calif.

districts in which they reside."

For further information, contact the <u>Placer County Air Pollution Control District</u> at 530-889-7130.



## County Recognizes November as National Hospice Month

November 28, 2000

At their October 17th meeting, the Board of Supervisors proclaimed the month of November National Hospice Month. In their proclamation, the Supervisors recognized the comfort and care provided by more than 40,000 professionals and 150,000 volunteers nationwide in efforts to provide care which "allows people to live well at the end of life."

In addition, the Board approved use of revenue sharing funds by Supervisors White, Santucci and Bloomfield to help fund the printing of the *Senior Resource Guide for Placer County*, which lists Placer County and other agencies' services for seniors.

Board Chair Harriet White, Supervisor, District 3, presented the proclamation to Terry Boehler, the Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice Supervisor. Founded in 1981, the local hospice has 14 staff members and approximately 75 volunteers, and serves Auburn and surrounding communities from Alta to Loomis and Lincoln. Staff and volunteers help around 250 people per year at the end of their lives, providing support for the patients in their homes and helping family members and care givers cope with the many issues which arise.

"Hospice is about living until you die. We help people live their lives to the fullest, to the best of their capacity, until they die," said Hospice Community Educator Therese Crutcher-Marin. The hospice, a non-profit which accepts tax-deductible donations, provides services regardless of a patient's ability to pay. "We could not exist without the generosity of the community, and we certainly couldn't provide services to those without health care. We never turn anyone away. This is a very generous community and our hospice care is available in great part because of that generous, continuing support," she said.

Crutcher-Marin hoped the proclamation would raise public awareness about hospice services. She stressed "...One of the most important things we all need to recognize is that it's important to discuss matters involving the end of life with our families, friends, and

County Recognizes November as National Hospice Month -- Placer County, Calif.

our doctors and medical care providers."

For further information about the Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice program, call 530-823-9691.



#### **Prevention Mini-grants Offered**

Placer County Health and Human Services is making available mini-grants of up to \$3,000 to help provide youth development activities which promote healthful decisions and help young people resist problem behaviors such as the illegal use of alcohol or drugs, teen pregnancy, violence and truancy.

"Providing positive opportunities helps young people grow into successful adults and helps prevent these negative behaviors," declared Dr. Richard Burton, Placer County Public Health Officer. "Our hope is to attract grant applications which help young people build on their strengths and capabilities to be resources within our community."

Examples of activities that could be eligible include community service projects, after school programs or events, creative arts projects, recreational activities, employment readiness and skill building and mentoring programs. Projects that include multiple age groups, collaborate with existing programs, strengthen community ties and build individual and community resiliency will receive priority.

Examples of organizations that may apply include committees, commissions, non-profit and for-profit corporations, businesses, service groups, government agencies and schools. Individuals with a proposal must partner with an organization for fiscal management of the mini-grant. For example a parent or teacher wishing to offer a program could partner with a local service club, school, PTC, youth organization, church, art agency, etc. Please note that activities must take place outside normal school hours.

Grant applicants will be expected to recruit applicants from many sources, such as public and private schools including continuation/alternative schools, churches, therapeutic or correctional settings, community education projects, youth groups, school counselor referrals, homeless shelters, social service agencies, child care facilities and group homes.

Applications must be submitted by January 12, 2001 at 5:00 PM to Shari Crow, Placer County Health and Human Services, 11484 B Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603. For complete information and a copy of the guidelines, call 530 889-7238 or 530 886-3567. Applicants will be notified the week of January 15, 2001.





# New Information Available on Proposed Bickford Ranch Project

November 17, 2000

The Placer County Planning Department has released a proposed Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the proposed Bickford Ranch project. The proposed project would be located north of the community of Penryn and west of Newcastle.

The Final EIR is available for public review at several locations:

- Placer County Planning Department, 11414 B Avenue, Auburn
- City of Lincoln Public Library, 590 5th Street, Lincoln
- Penryn County Library, 2215 Rippey Road, Penryn
- Auburn-Placer County Library, 350 Nevada Street, Auburn
- Loomis County Library, 6050 Library Drive, Loomis
- Rocklin County Library, 5460 Fifth Street, Rocklin
- City of Lincoln Community Development Department, 640 5th Street, Lincoln
- Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, 511 5th Street, Lincoln
- Lincoln Travel and Cruise, 590 McBean Park Drive, Lincoln
- Consolidated Fire District, Station 2, 9305 Crater Hill, Ophir
- Penryn Fire Station, 7206 Church Street, Penryn

Residents may also find the Final EIR through the county Web site, on the <u>Proposed</u> <u>Bickford Ranch Project</u> page. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the project in early 2001.

To learn more about the project, members of the public may attend meetings of the Penryn, Lincoln, and Newcastle Municipal Advisory Councils (MACs). A joint meeting of all three MACs to discuss the project is being planned but is not yet scheduled. For details on MAC meeting times, call the Board of Supervisors' office at 530-889-4010.

For further information, contact the Planning Department at 530-889-7470 during normal business hours, 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday. Further information is also

New Information Available on Proposed Bickford Ranch Project -- Placer County, Calif.

available online.



#### **New Probation Officers Sworn In**

Nov. 17, 2000

Six new Placer County Probation officers were officially sworn in Thursday in by Chief Probation Officer Norma Suzuki in court room ceremonies at the new Juvenile Detention Facility in Auburn.

New officers are Rhondi Ruth, Joseph Netemeyer, Stephanie Mason, Todd Murrin, Trista Sherfey and Wayne Burton, who were sworn in by Suzuki. All six will work at the new Placer County Juvenile Detention Center.

The event, attended by family, friends and fellow staff, recognized and honored these individuals for the success in the peace officer selection process. "We acknowledge your accomplishment and wish you success in your career," Suzuki said. "The selection process is arduous and lengthy. We are proud that you chose to serve in Placer County."

Probation officers must possess a college degree in conjunction with work-related experience. They must also complete an intensive five-week academy during their first year, which includes a complete study of the adult and juvenile criminal justice systems, court report writing, court presentations, legal codes and case law, laws of arrest and seizure, interviewing and counseling techniques, security and supervision, first aid and CPR and public relations. Placer County has 91 sworn Probation Officers.

Annually, the Probation Department enforces court orders and monitors the actions of more than 3,300 adult offenders and 400 minors on probation; reviews 2,000 juvenile cases; operates work release, home monitoring and community corrections programs for more than 4,500 offenders; provides services to the Superior Court; and provides first offender, diversion services and citation services to 1,200 minors at-risk. The department also provides care and treatment of an average of 50 youth per day through the Juvenile Detention Center, and prepares and serves an average of 55,000 meals each month to people in the Placer County jail and other county juvenile and adult institutions.



#### **Child Support Services Informational Meetings**

Placer County will hold a series of informational workshops to help the public understand how families can make best use of the county's new Child Support Services Department, to begin operation on December 6, 2000. The new department will replace the former Family Support Division in the County District Attorney's Office. Outreach workshops will be held in Kings Beach on November 13, in Roseville on November 14, and in Auburn on November 15.

- Monday, Nov. 13, 7 p.m., North Tahoe Conference Center, <u>8318 North Lake</u> Blvd., Kings Beach
- Tuesday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m., Maidu Center, <u>1550 Maidu Drive</u>, in Roseville
- Wednesday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m., Placer County Planning Commission Room, <u>11414</u>
   B Avenue, DeWitt Center, Auburn

During the meetings, information about Child Support Programs will be presented and suggestions from the community will be received. However, information about individual family situations will not be discussed. Spanish language interpreters will assist in Kings Beach and in Roseville.



### Placer County Offers Help to Dry Creek Fire District

County Letter to Dry Creek Fire Board | Judge Gaddis 11/3/00 Court Order
County "Vindicated" in Effort to Protect Local Control (10/4/00

Proposed Application to LAFCO Regarding Dry Creek Fire (8/18/00)

Nov. 6, 2000 3:15 p.m.

Placer County officials were surprised to learn late Friday, Nov. 3, that Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Protection District (Sac Metro FPD) intended to withdraw all its resources Monday Nov. 6 from the Dry Creek Fire Protection District (Dry Creek FPD), an agency with which it had been seeking to merge.

The Dry Creek FPD has a locally elected board that has voted to dissolve itself, but currently has the statutory responsibility and authority to provide fire and emergency services in the community.

At 8 a.m. today Placer County Executive Officer Donald G. Lunsford directed a letter to the Dry Creek Fire Protection District stressing that the County stands "ready, willing and able to provide your district whatever resources are necessary to protect life and property, should you request it."

Several previous offers of assistance from the County have not been accepted by Dry Creek FPD.

Lunsford expressed concern over how the sudden action took place, and the lack of coordination with the County. "We are disappointed that after the decision to withdraw, neither Sac Metro nor Dry Creek attempted to coordinate backup emergency service plans with Placer County to make sure that residents continue to receive uninterrupted fire and emergency services." Under a proposal approved by the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Placer County will provide full time staffing by two people to the Dry Creek station, seven days a week, 24 hours a day, and equipment as necessary to respond to fires, emergency medical service calls and other incidents.

In a letter to the county received this afternoon referring to Superior Court Judge Larry Gaddis' order, Dry Creek FPD referenced an unsigned order which was inconsistent with the actual order signed by Judge Gaddis. Sac Metro asserts that it was required by the ruling to remove its fire protection services. However, the ruling by Superior Court Judge Larry Gaddis affirmed that the contract was illegal, and did not require Sac Metro to abandon the citizens of Dry Creek by removing all of its fire protection resources. Further, the ruling did not require Sac Metro to take unilateral decisions without consultation with the County of Placer. Lunsford said. "It's an example of out-of-county decision making which can harm our residents."

Though Placer County is willing to provide "staffing and equipment as necessary" right away, according to Lunsford, full adoption of the legal change, as approved by LAFCO, requires the Board of Supervisors to conduct a protest hearing, which has been scheduled for Nov. 14 at 11 a.m.

Placer County officials have repeatedly warned that a merger of Dry Creek with Sac Metro would mean that Dry Creek residents would lose local control over their tax dollars and assets.



#### Sierra College Boulevard Clean-up Planned

October 31, 2000

Volunteers from CIMBL - Citizens Involved Means Better Living - plan their biggest clean-up of the year along Sierra College Boulevard for this Saturday, November 4. This is CIMBL's biggest clean-up project each year, running 15 miles from Hwy 193 to the Placer County line.

"We'll need 60 to 70 volunteers to do a really good job," said Hal Albertsen, CIMBL founder and schedule organizer. "Sierra College Boulevard is our longest effort, and it's always the county road with the most trash, so we need a big crew!"

Volunteers will meet on Saturday at 9 AM at the Sierra College parking lot located at the corner of Sierra College Boulevard and Rocklin Road, at the east end by the football field. Volunteers should wear comfortable shoes, a hat, layered clothing, and gloves. CIMBL will supply safety vests, track pick-up sticks, and plastic trash bags.

CIMBL has been cleaning up Placer County roads for seven years, with support from Placer County. With a membership of 400, their trash collection tally to date includes 13,108 bags of trash and 1,226 tires, from clean-up projects along 1,338 miles of county roads.

For further information about CIMBL or this weekend's clean-up project, call Hal Albertsen at 916-645-3599. "We hope for beautiful fall weather," Albertsen said. "If it rains, we'll have to cancel." In case of threatening weather, volunteers should call 530-886-5250 to see if the clean-up will be held.



## Construction to Improve Placer County Tahoe Area Animal Shelter

Oct. 25, 2000

Homeless animals staying at the Placer County Animal Shelter at Tahoe Vista will soon find improved lodging as the result of renovations to be made during the month of November.

New kennels for dogs and cats will mean that people searching for lost pets or considering pet adoptions can more easily visit the animals. Additionally, the front office will be modified to help staff assist the public.

"Brighter, cheerier new kennels will improve the morale of our animals and help us all in finding them homes," said Jet Black, Acting Supervisor.

During the remodeling, animals won't be able to stay in the shelter, so several community groups have stepped forward to provide short term foster homes. "So far we have pledges of support from the shelters in El Dorado County, South Lake Tahoe, Pet Network, Wylie Animal Rescue Foundation, and Dr. Justin Quecke, DVM, of the Agate Bay Veterinary Hospital," said Black.

"We would welcome calls from other community members who might be willing to provide animal foster care for about a month," Black noted. "With the community's help, we'll be able to move swiftly through this remodeling project, which when it's finished, will help both our community and our animal friends."



#### **Board Approves Plan for Child Support Services**

Oct. 24, 2000

Placer County Supervisors have approved a transition plan to submit to the State of California for a new County Department of Child Support Services, the agency that will become responsible for collecting delinquent child support payments on behalf of families.

Under state legislation approved last year, all counties are required to shift local responsibility to newly-established county Child Support Services departments by January 1, 2003. Placer County has been designated as a "Pioneer County" to transition early, one of only 11 statewide, and will be making the change on Dec. 16, 2000.

Currently the program is called "Family Support" and is a division of the District Attorney's office.

A series of informational workshops has been planned to assist the public in understanding how families can make best use of Child Support Services. Outreach workshops will be held in Kings Beach on November 13, in Roseville on November 14, and in Auburn on November 15.

The goal is to make the transition "seamless" from the perspective of families, according to Darell Ford, Deputy County Executive Officer. Offices will remain in current locations. Staff who currently assist families through the family support division will become part of the new county department. A new State department of Child Support Services has been created, and will eventually set many policies for the new county department.

"Our goal is to help families obtain the child support payments they have been awarded by the courts," said Ford. "Families will not need to take any action as we make this change. We welcome the advice of families who are our clients and others as we work to make this new department as responsive as possible."

Here is the full schedule of community meetings:

- Monday, Nov. 13, 7 p.m., North Tahoe Conference Center, 8318 North Lake Blvd., Kings Beach;
- Tuesday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m., Maidu Center, 1550 Maidu Drive, in Roseville; and
- Wednesday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m., Placer County Planning Commission Room, 11414 B Avenue, DeWitt Center, Auburn;

During the meetings, information about Child Support Programs will be presented and suggestions from the community will be received. However, information about individual family situations will not be discussed. Spanish language interpreters will assist in Kings Beach and in Roseville.

Carl DePietro, a senior manager in the County Executive Office, is coordinating the transition and may be contacted at 530-889-4062 for more information.



# Free Health Fair Planned for Seniors - "Walk It, Don't Rock It"

Oct. 24, 2000

Free medical screenings, low cost flu shots, and clear information about complicated issues like Medicare are among the many opportunities to be found at the upcoming seventh annual Senior Health and Fitness Fair.

This fun and information-filled event will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 8, at the Multipurpose Senior Center, 11577 E Avenue, DeWitt Center, in Auburn. Placer County's Preventive Health Care for the Aging program has organized the event in cooperation with the Multipurpose Senior Center and other community sponsors.

Clogging, tap dancing and line dancing – all by local seniors participating through the Placer Adult School – will demonstrate that fitness can be fun. Music, opportunities to win prizes, snacks and a healthy lunch round out the morning. For a donation of \$2.25, seniors can dine at the Foothills Café (at the Multipurpose Senior Center), which will serve beef stew with hubbard squash, biscuit, jello with fruit and juice. (To make a reservation for lunch, call 530-888-7137 at least 24 hours in advance.)

Free health screenings include blood pressure, blood sugar and body fat, muscle strength, hearing tests, pulse oximeter and lung function, massage and others. Seniors can receive information on insurance programs, Medicare, legal issues and health services.

Flu shots will be provided by the Placer County Immunization Clinic for \$5.

Other community sponsors of the event include AARP, Health for All, Sutter Auburn Faith Cardiac and Cardio-Pulmonary Rehabilitation units, Foothill Volunteer Center, Placer County Commission on Aging, and the Senior Review.



#### **Snow's Coming; Snow Parking Reminders**

Oct. 24, 2000

Winter's on its way. With the beauty and fun of the snow come the challenges of snow removal and local travel in the Sierra.

The Placer County Public Works Department, which is responsible for the second-largest snow removal operation in California - second only to the California Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans) - has issued the following reminders to residents and guests:

- Be sure to park your vehicle off the road and off the shoulder from Nov. 1 through May 1, regardless of weather or snow conditions. The owner of a vehicle parked on a county roadway or road shoulder can be fined a minimum of \$50, ranging up to \$300 if the parked vehicle interferes with the operation of snow removal or emergency equipment. The vehicle may also be towed at owner expense.
- Please remove all wood piles, boats or anything else which may obstruct snow plows.
- When clearing your driveway, please don't push the snow into the road. It is a violation of the California vehicle code to place or throw snow or ice onto a county highway or street.
- You can receive general information about snow removal on county-maintained roads in North Lake Tahoe by calling 530-581-6222, a message machine updated by Placer County Public Works Department approximately once a day or when conditions change significantly. Callers select from information about each of five snow removal routes. Routes can be identified on the message or online at www. placer.ca.gov/works. For information about state highways, contact Caltrans at 1-800-427-ROAD.

"The community's good attitude in parking off the street is helping us to care for the environment and to provide better snow removal service," said Tim Hackworth, Acting Director, Placer County Public Works. "Thank you for your support, and please continue to help keep your guests informed as well."





### **West Placer MAC Changes Meeting Date**

October 20, 2000

At the request of the Board of Supervisors and to avoid conflicts with other regular county meetings, the West Placer Municipal Advisory Council, the MAC, will change its regular meeting date to the second Thursday of each month. Meetings are held at 7 PM in the Dry Creek Elementary School "Big Room." The school is located at the intersection of P.F.E and Cook-Riolo Roads.

The public is always welcome to attend MAC meetings. For a copy of a meeting agenda, call the Board's office at 530-889-4010.



# County, Local Business Leaders Host Auburn Area Job Fair

October 17, 2000

Are you planning to enter or re-enter the job market? Or do you want to find a new job in the Auburn area? Then don't miss the upcoming Job Fair!

The Placer County Office of Economic Development, *The Auburn Journal*, and the Auburn Chamber of Commerce are hosting the Fair on Thursday, October 26, from 12 noon to 6 PM in the Placer Building at the Gold Country Fairgrounds.

Job seekers will be able to speak with dozens of Auburn area employers at the Fair, with opportunities for on-site interviews. There will also be resume reviewing and critiquing.

For more information, call Cindy at 530-889-4090.



#### **Computer Errors Noted, Fixes Underway**

#### Oct. 13, 2000

Two completely unrelated computer errors have caused incorrect billings to be mailed to a large number of Placer County residents in recent days. The County is taking immediate steps to correct them.

An error has caused 1,800 parcel owners who are assessed as part of the Community Service Area 28 Zone 22 Dry Creek Flood to receive an inaccurate and excessive statement of this assessment on their property tax bills.

The good news is that parcel owners will owe less than the amount which is currently shown. A letter of apology to each parcel owner was mailed Thursday, and new statements will be mailed as soon as new bills can be generated. Staff from the Public Works Department, which made the billing error, are also making personal phone calls to 15 residents whose bills would have been particularly high. "We extend our apologies to anyone who received these inaccurate statements, and are doing our best to correct the situation quickly," said Tim Hackworth, Interim Director, Placer County Public Works. For information please call 530-886-2215.

The second error may affect at least 4,000 people who may have payment plans through revenue services, mostly commonly for delinquent fines assessed by the courts. This error is resulting in very overstated billing for the minimum amount due. According to correspondence being sent to all customers, the error occurred due to a computer problem which has now been corrected. Customers who believe they have been affected are being advised to make their normal payment as usual.

"We sincerely regret any inconvenience this temporary problem may have caused. Please be assured that your next statement will reflect proper and accurate information," noted Carol J. Trotter, Revenue Services Manager. If you need additional information, call 530-889-7786.



### County Seeks Public Input on Bell Road Widening Project

October 5, 2000

The Placer County Public Works Department will hold an open house and workshop on Wednesday, October 18, to provide information and take public comment on a proposed project to widen Bell Road east of Hwy 49. The open house and workshop will be held between 4 and 7 PM at the Planning Commission chambers, at <u>11414 B Avenue</u> in DeWitt Center.

Members of the public interested in the project are welcome any time during the three-hour workshop to examine displays of the proposed project. Staff will be available to provide information and answer questions. There will also be comment sheets available to submit comments, concerns or suggestions regarding the project.

In March, 1999, the original Draft Environmental Impact Report was released for public review and comment. Based on public comments and input on the original document, the County decided to consider project alternatives. These alternatives are included in a Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report. This report was released for public review on September 21, 2000. Copies are available for review at the Public Works Department, at 11444 B Avenue in the DeWitt Center in Auburn, and at the Auburn-Placer County Public Library, at 350 Nevada Street in Auburn.

The project is proposed to widen Bell Road to a four-lane expressway from Hwy 49 to Interstate 80, a distance of about 2.5 miles, with a painted center section with left-turn pockets at intersections and high-use driveways. Alternatives are proposed for the width of the center section, and for restricting left turns at some intersections. There are also two alternatives for the road widening, one widening the road mostly to the south and the other widening the road mostly to the north. The Board will consider all alternatives before making their decisions. At this time, construction costs are estimated at between \$4 and \$5 million, and funding sources are still under discussion.

All comments on the report must be provided in writing to Charlene Daniels, the senior

planner on the project, by 5 PM, Thursday, November 2, 2000. The address is Placer County Planning Department, 11414 B Avenue, Auburn CA 95603. All comments received on both the Original and the Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Reports will be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Report. The Board of Supervisors will consider the final report and make decisions on the proposed project.

"After years of work on this project, we're approaching a decision-making point," said Harriet White, Supervisor of District 3. "This is an important project for the entire Auburn area. I hope all concerned citizens take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about the alternatives proposed for improving and widening Bell Road, to reduce traffic congestion."

For further information on the project, contact Bill Moore in the Transportation Division in Public Works, at 530-889-7581.



#### **Video Shot in Placer to Air on Sunday**

October 5, 2000

The next segment of MTV's highly successful program "Senseless Acts of Video," which was shot last month on the Foresthill Bridge, airs this Sunday, Oct. 8, at 8:30 p.m.

The series features one-of-a-kind stunts performed by experienced professionals. Last month the show's host (and two time sky surfing world champion) Troy Hartman performed a base jump from a moving 53-foot semi-truck driving across Foresthill Bridge.

Explained Beverly Lewis, Director of the <u>Placer-Lake Tahoe Film Office</u>, "Base jumps are never routine and this proposed stunt had many more 'moving parts' than usual. The production team proved as safety conscious as local authorities and because of that everything went smoothly. This was repeat business for us. The show featured in an earlier episode with Hartman doing a tandem jump from the bridge. This stunt should be even more exciting."

Support to film and video production is proving to be a valuable economic development strategy for Placer County. Last year local production of movies, commercials and video segments generated more than \$3.5 million to businesses in Placer County. Crews on location purchase food, lodging and production materials, sometimes hire local crew members and otherwise spend money in Placer communities.



### County "Vindicated" in Effort to Protect Local Control

Oct. 4, 2000

Placer County Supervisor Bill Santucci and County Counsel are pleased with the Placer County Superior Court ruling Friday which halts merger efforts between the Dry Creek Fire Protection and American River Fire Protection Districts until the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) completes its legally-required public decision making process.

"With a merger between Dry Creek and American River Fire Districts, our residents would lose local control over their fire and emergency medical services," stressed District 1 Supervisor Bill Santucci, who represents the communities of western Placer County. "Placer County has a responsibility to help protect our residents if this special district chooses not to."

"The court has vindicated our belief that the two fire districts were taking actions contrary to the law, directly sidestepping the legal oversight provided by LAFCO," stated Anthony La Bouff, Placer County Counsel. "We believe the Districts used a contract to achieve a goal they felt they might not otherwise achieve.

"With this action of the court, Placer County now feels confident that public hearings before LAFCO can continue, and that proposals from both the Dry Creek Fire District and the County of Placer will be fairly reviewed at an open public session."

The LAFCO meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 4 p.m., <u>175 Fulweiler Avenue</u> in Auburn.

LaBouff said that Placer County was forced to sue the fire districts because Dry Creek Fire Protection District illegally agreed to transfer equipment, land and buildings, fire engines, and tax revenues to the American River Fire Protection District without obtaining the necessary approval from LAFCO. "With this transfer of all assets and all power, the District effectively went out of business, leaving their fire board only as a shell."

Dry Creek Fire is located in western Placer County, while American River Fire is located almost entirely in Sacramento County and is in the process of merging with Sacramento Fire Protection District as the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District.

The County of Placer has submitted a competing proposal to provide all hazard fire and emergency medical aid services protection to the Dry Creek area under the control of local elected officials.

"Thanks to this court action, LAFCO will be able to review both proposals and to make a decision based on the best interests of our residents," Santucci said.



### Sup. Bloomfield to Host Coffee in Kings Beach

Sept. 29, 2000

Supervisor Rex Bloomfield has invited residents to his latest coffee klatsch at the Kings Beach Library on Tuesday, Oct. 24, at noon. Bloomfield has also invited Rich Colwell, County Redevelopment Director, to join him in listening to residents and answering questions.

Describing himself as "newly energized" to begin a third term in January, District 5 Supervisor Rex Bloomfield has been holding a series of informal community coffee klatches to spend time with residents and to gather information about the issues they feel are most important.

Even though Supervisor Bloomfield regularly attends the monthly meetings of the North Tahoe Regional Advisory Council, he is hoping that the library coffees will provide a less formal atmosphere and a better opportunity for conversation on any subject. He's particularly hoping for community input on several key issues.

The need for both seasonal employee housing and year round affordable housing always tops the list of concerns in Kings Beach. "Issues as complex as affordable housing cannot be solved overnight," he said. "I look forward to hearing your workable ideas."

Planning for sidewalks in Kings Beach is another item of interest, in this case, with assistance from the North Lake Tahoe Public Utilities District.

A consistent advocate of open space protection, Bloomfield is seeking additional information from the community regarding Placer Legacy, the County's newly adopted program to conserve open space and agricultural land. "The question is, what do residents most want to see Placer Legacy accomplish in North Lake Tahoe?" he asks. "Are there particular projects we should consider 'top priority?'

Other significant challenges Supervisors must face almost immediately revolve around growth: the need to plan and pay for new county facilities, both to serve additional

residents and to replace aging facilities such as the Sheriff's Substation at Burton Creek and most of the DeWitt Center. Costs are expected to surpass \$218 million. Facility needs far surpass the additional revenues this year's good economy has meant. Up to \$80 million will be needed to perform long term maintenance on 1,000 miles of county roadway in addition to the money currently budgeted for routine maintenance, which comes from the general fund, gasoline taxes and other state and federal sources. While most counties don't use general funds for road maintenance, Placer County has been spending at least \$3 million a year from the general fund, and recently added another \$2.3 million at budget hearings. "Do residents see facilities and county road maintenance as an important priority?" Bloomfield asks.

Earlier this month, the County was awarded \$35,000 for a Planning and Technical grant from the Dept. of Housing and Community Development's Block Grant Program. "Kings Beach has tremendous economic potential," declared Supervisor Bloomfield. "Writing a strategic economic development plan will help us maximize hotel, motel, restaurant, highway commercial services and recreational business development. By strengthening our business community in Kings Beach we can ultimately improve the quality of life for our residents through more and better jobs, housing and other opportunities."

"Redevelopment efforts in Kings Beach will make such a difference, long term," he continued. "The strategic business development plan Rich Colwell will describe will help us decide how best to improve the business climate and will focus on employee housing in more depth than did the study done in Tahoe City.

"Assessing the situation will be the first step, a process which will include surveys, public workshops, and interviews with stakeholders. Your input on redevelopment activities are certainly needed."

While the coffee klatches and MAC meetings offer easy access to provide information to Supervisors and county staff, Supervisor Bloomfield notes that residents can also contact him on any subject by email to bloomfield@foothill.net, or by mail to 175 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn, CA 95603. The dates and times of North Tahoe Regional Advisory Committee meetings are available by calling the Board office, 530-889-4010. "Improving communication is usually the first step to solving problems," he said. "I hope residents will attend to help us better understand their needs on any topic."



# District 3 Supervisor Coffees - Conduit for Conversation

Sept. 29, 2000

If you want to make sure your local elected official understands your views on county government, then the monthly coffees held by Supervisor Harriet White may offer you the perfect opportunity.

"Some people feel comfortable speaking in Board meetings, but many others feel more comfortable conversing in smaller groups," said Supervisor White, who hosts coffees regularly to elicit comments and concerns from residents. "It's also an excellent opportunity for me to clarify how decisions are made, how state policies affect us, how policies are created. Few issues are really simple; usually an issue has many perspectives and complicating factors. Over coffee, we can spend the time we need to understand one another.

"The strength of local government, versus state or national, is that you can meet and talk to us, face to face, so we can understand your views."

Supervisor White's coffees are held on the first Wednesday of each month at Denny's Restaurant in Newcastle at 7 a.m., next scheduled for October 4 and November 1. Other coffees are planned fourth Wednesday of each month at Denny's Restaurant in North Auburn, on Highway 49 in the Bel Air Shopping Center, next scheduled for Oct. 25.

"Topics we've discussed have ranged from diesel truck fumes to how the County budget works," she said. "I'm particularly interested in hearing about neighborhood issues I can help with."

If meetings, even smaller ones, aren't your cup of tea, consider sending White an email (bos@placer.ca.gov), send a letter to 175 Fulweiler Ave., or visit the Board meetings and speak during the public comment section early in the meeting. And of course she's always available by phone, 530-889-4010.

The <u>most current Board agenda</u> is posted on the county Web site.



#### **Budget Brings Benefits to District 1**

Sept. 29, 2000

Placer County's 2000-2001 Fiscal Year Budget approved recently by Supervisors includes funding for several District 1 projects, in addition to the benefits of county wide services.

Topping the list are road improvement projects. Sections of Baseline Road will receive asphalt concrete overlay, a process which extends the useful life of the road up to 20 years and provides motorists with a smoother ride. Slurry seal treatments will be used on Frances Ave., Livoti Ave., Roseville Ridge Ct., Eddie St., and Bryan Ave., while additional roads will receive chip seal treatments. Both treatments improve and extend the life of road surfaces.

Major regional projects will also bring benefit to District 1 residents. The facility formerly owned and privately operated by Charter Hospital, which closed suddenly in February, will be leased and operated by Placer County as a psychiatric facility to treat up to 30 local patients and to house other county services for South Placer residents.

"I am very proud of this wonderful addition, which is in Roseville," declared Supervisor Bill Santucci. "Our residents will receive high quality mental health care under local control in our community where their families can visit and assist them. We can consolidate some offices for Health and Human Services staff who serving the South Placer area, such as the 24-hour crisis care line. We may also be able to provide space for general government services, which would be a great convenience to South Placer residents who might otherwise have to travel to Auburn."

The budget also includes money to begin planning for a South Placer Criminal Justice Center, which tentatively would include space for courts, prosecutors, probation officers, deputies and a medium security jail. No site has been selected yet.

Planning the South Placer facility is part of a County budgeting priority to build infrastructure to meet future needs. "Our population will increase another 50 percent in the next ten years, especially here in South Placer County, and we must be ready,"

Santucci said. "We are taking advantage of good economic times to prepare for the future, and doing maintenance projects we had to defer in leaner budget years," Santucci said. In this year's budget, Supervisors concentrated additional resources on road maintenance and facility improvement.

Still under consideration is a proposal to use part of the County's pending share of Safe Neighborhood Park Bond Act money to construct a "Tot Lot", a play facility for young children, at Sabre City. The issue will be reviewed by the Sabre City Property Owners Association, the Dry Creek-West Placer Municipal Advisory Committee and the Placer County Parks Commission to receive public input. When State guidelines are complete, the county will apply for the money.



#### **Budget Brings Benefits to District 2**

Sept. 29, 2000

Placer County's 2000-2001 Fiscal Year Budget recently approved by Supervisors today includes funding for several District 2 projects, in addition to the benefits of county wide services.

Topping the list are road improvement projects. Parts of Nicolaus and McCourtney Roads through rural Lincoln, plus various locations in Penryn as yet unidentified, will receive asphalt concrete overlays. This process extends the useful life of the road up to 20 years and provides motorists with a smoother ride.

The Gladding Road bridge over Coon Creek, a \$594,000 project, is slated to be designed and constructed. Commuters and recreational bikers will benefit from new bicycle lanes to be constructed along Taylor/Ophir Road between Newcastle Rd. and Auburn.

A traffic signal will be installed at the Sunset Blvd. and Atherton Road intersection, improving traffic flow in and around the Sunset Industrial Area, the County's prime industrial development site. Slurry seal, a treatment which maintains and improves road surfaces, will be applied next summer to parts of Fruitvale and Hungry Hollow Rd. Shoulder widening projects are planned for Mt. Vernon (south of Joeger Road), Baxter Grade and Dowd Road.

Other major regional projects will also bring to benefit to District 2 residents. Planning has begun for a South Placer Criminal Justice Center, which tentatively will include space for courts, prosecutors, probation officers, deputies and a medium security jail.

Placer County will also be leasing the facility formerly operated by Charter Hospital in Roseville to provide psychiatric services for residents, to consolidate some county Health and Human Services offices and to provide a South Placer location where residents can more conveniently work with some county departments.

The county's budget priorities for Fiscal Year 2000-2001 have focused on planning for the

future, since the population is expected to climb an additional 50 percent in the next ten years. Supervisors have concentrated additional resources toward road maintenance/ improvement and construction of new facilities needed to serve new residents and to replace worn out buildings at the 56-year old DeWitt Center. "In addition to planning for growth, our main emphasis will continue to be the attraction of primary wage earner jobs, especially to our 9,000 acre Sunset Industrial Area," noted District 2 Supervisor Robert Weygandt."



#### **Budget Brings Benefits to District 3**

Sept. 29, 2000

Placer County's 2000-2001 Fiscal Year Budget recently approved by Supervisors includes funding for numerous District 3 projects, plus the benefits of county wide services.

Topping the list are road improvement projects. Bell Road, from the Joeger Rd. to two miles west, will receive asphalt concrete overlay, a process which extends the useful life of the road up to 20 years and provides motorists with a smoother ride. The north side of Bell Road between Hwy 49 and Professional Drive will be widened. The bridge on Bell Road at Dry Creek will be replaced.

Slurry seal, a treatment which maintains and improves road surfaces, will be used on parts of North Auburn roads including Country Meadows Ct., Live Oak Ln., Merry Knoll, Collins Dr., Lilac Ln., Live Oak Way, Edgewood Rd., Tahoe St. Linda Dr., Sunshine Way, Panorama Way, Wimbledon Dr., Love Way, Racquet Ct. and Racquet Club Dr. More roads will receive other surface treatments.

A number of facility improvement projects are also in planning phases or taking place in the Auburn area. Restrooms and the roof will be improved at the Auburn Placer County Library. Improvements to the DeWitt Center will take place at the Building Dept., Planning Dept., the District Attorney's office, the Courts on B Avenue, Economic Development and Facility Services. At the Main Jail, controls and the entry areas will be improved and 96 new jail beds will be built. Preliminary planning will take also place for a new Criminal Justice Center and Land Development Facility at DeWitt. Other money is being spent on major maintenance and new signage at DeWitt.

Placer County will also be leasing the facility formerly operated by Charter Hospital in Roseville to provide psychiatric services for residents, to consolidate some county Health and Human Services offices and to provide a South Placer location where residents can more conveniently work with some county departments.

The county's budget priorities for Fiscal Year 2000-2001 have focused on planning for the

future, since the population is expected to climb an additional 50 percent in the next ten years. Supervisors have concentrated more resources toward road maintenance/improvement and construction of facilities to serve the public as the county continues to grow rapidly. "We need to get ready for the future," stressed Chairman Harriet White, who represents District 3.



#### **Budget Brings Benefits to District 4**

Sept. 29, 2000

Placer County's 2000-2001 Fiscal Year Budget recently approved by Supervisors includes funding for several District 4 projects, in addition to the benefits of county wide services.

Topping the list are road improvement projects. East Roseville Parkway from Roseville to Barton Road and Auburn Folsom Rd. from King Rd. to Newcastle Rd. will receive asphalt concrete overlay, a process which extends the useful life of the road up to 20 years and provides motorists with a smoother ride.

A four-way flashing beacon will be added at the intersection of Auburn Folsom and Horseshoe Bar Roads. Pavement reconstruction will be done at the intersection of Douglas Blvd. and Sierra College Blvd., and Sierra College will be widened to four lanes between Old Auburn Road and the County line.

Slurry seal, a treatment which maintains and improves road surfaces, will be used on parts of many roads in Granite Bay including Oak Knoll Rd., Lakeshore Dr., Sierra Dr., Mooney Dr., Hill Rd., Lakeland Dr. W. Granite Dr., E. Granite Dr., and Shelbourne Dr. Other surface treatments will be used to improve other roads in the area.

Phase one of the Granite Bay Park will be constructed, as will the Granite Bay Library path. Construction will be initiated on the Douglas Ranch and Treelake Terrace parks.

Other major regional projects will also benefit to District 4 residents. Planning has begun for a South Placer Criminal Justice Center, which tentatively will include space for courts, prosecutors, probation officers, deputies and a medium security jail.

Placer County will also be leasing the facility formerly operated by Charter Hospital in Roseville to provide psychiatric services for residents, to consolidate some county Health and Human Services offices and to provide a South Placer location where residents can more conveniently work with some county departments.

The county's budget priorities for Fiscal Year 2000-2001 have focused on planning for the future, since the population is expected to climb an additional 50 percent in the next ten years. Supervisors have concentrated additional resources toward road maintenance/improvement and construction of facilities needed to serve new residents and to replace worn out buildings at the 56-year old DeWitt Center.

"Our top budget priority must be to make sure the infrastructure is in place as we face growth in South Placer and the surrounding jurisdictions," declared Supervisor Jim Williams.



#### **Budget Brings Benefits to District 5**

Sept. 29, 2000

Placer County's 2000-2001 Fiscal Year Budget approved by Supervisors last week includes funding for several District 5 projects, in addition to the benefits of county wide services.

Topping the list are road improvement projects. Slurry seal, a treatment which maintains and improves road surfaces, will be applied to many roads in the North Lake Tahoe and Todd Valley area. Other roads will receive chip seal treatments.

The deck on the Dog Bar Road bridge at the Bear River will be repaired.

In the North Lake Tahoe area, erosion control and water quality improvement projects will take place at Agate Road and National Ave. at Hwy. 28, on Fern St. near Homewood, and at the Burton Creek facility. A \$3 million erosion control and stream environmental zone restoration will be constructed at Snow Creek Stream.

Street, drainage and sidewalk improvements on Hwy 28 will be completed as part of the Tahoe City Urban Improvement project. There will also be an expansion to the Tahoe City Library.

Facility planning will begin for the North Lake Tahoe area, including plans to move the Public Works site to Cabin Creek Road and to build a new criminal justice facility.

Construction will begin on the 35-acre Squaw Valley Park and the 5 acre Meadow Vista Equestrian Center.

The Foresthill Memorial Hall is being completely renovated, keeping its original design and look.

"It's exciting to see these long-sought projects move forward," noted Supervisor Rex Bloomfield. "I'm also very pleased that the Board of Supervisors has chosen to make road

maintenance and infrastructure planning and improvement a top priority as we begin this budget year, particularly since the population is expected to climb another 50 percent during the next 10 years."

Supervisors have concentrated additional resources where ever possible toward road maintenance/improvement and construction of new facilities needed to serve new residents and to replace worn out buildings, such as those at the 56-year-old DeWitt Center and Burton Creek.

"In Tahoe we will definitely continue our efforts toward improving affordable housing, strategic business plans, signage, redesign efforts for the Commons Beach area, and sidewalk planning in Kings Beach," Bloomfield noted.



#### Online Newsletter Supports Rapid Business Growth

September 28, 2000

Serving one of the fastest growing areas in California, Placer County's Office of Economic Development has turned to the Internet to keep up with county business development. In June, the department started a monthly email newsletter, Placer County *In Progress Online*.

"When we polled local business representatives about the best way to contact them with current business news, 'Just send us an email' was the most common reply," said Ed Graves, Director of the Office of Economic Development. "We developed *In Progress Online* as part of a complete redesign effort to reach and support existing county businesses. It complements and leverages other changes we've made in our business support activities. We use it to spread the word about our CalWORKs program, for example, one of the most successful in California in helping local businesses hire welfare recipients. That's reduced the county welfare caseload by 37%."

Graves stressed that his office serves the entire county, including the cities. As he and his staff have developed tools to help existing county businesses grow, he's found those tools also can be useful to businesses outside Placer County which might be considering relocation.

"The email newsletter isn't restricted by geography," Graves said. "While it's a great way to keep local businesses informed on county business opportunities, it's also an effective way to tell non-county residents and business owners about Placer's current lively business environment. And response has been terrific, from county businesses to state business organizations. We know it's working because we've had several businesses tell us they've gotten business through information in the newsletter."

The Office of Economic Development welcomes county business news. County businesses can share their news by contacting Bobbi Park, at bpark@placer.ca.gov, or at 530-889-4016. An <u>example of the August newsletter</u> is available here. <u>Visit the office's</u> Web page for more information, or to subscribe to *In Progress Online*.





# Register to Vote in the November, 2000, General Election

October 10, 2000 is the last day to register to vote for the November 7, 2000 Presidential General Election. If you haven't yet registered to vote, register by October 10, 2000, to be sure you can vote in the upcoming Presidential General Election. If you've moved since the last general election, you need to re-register at your new address by October 10, 2000 to vote in November.

You may register to vote if you:

- Are a United States citizen.
- Will be at least 18 years old by the time of the election.
- Are a resident of the State of California.
- Are not imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony.

You can pick up a voter registration card at any post office, library or Department of Motor Vehicles office in Placer County. You may also register by mail if your registration card are completed, signed and postmarked by October 10, 2000. In addition, you may register to vote online, through the California Secretary of State's Web pages.

As an added convenience, voter registration cards will be located outside the county Elections Division front door at the county's Finance and Administration Building, at 2956 Richardson Drive in Auburn on October 10<sup>th</sup> until 12:00 p.m. (midnight). Completed registration cards will be processed the next morning.

For more information about voter registration, please contact the Elections Division at (530) 886-5650.



### Supervisor, Undersheriff to Attend Youth Crime Prevention Meeting

Sept. 18, 2000

Placer County Supervisor Harriet White and Undersheriff Steve D'Arcy will join Auburn Boys and Girls Club Executive Director Wilson Granat in attending the National Conference on Preventing Crime next week in Washington, D.C.

This event has been organized Sept. 28 through Oct. 1 by the U.S. Dept. of Justice and the Crime Prevention Coalition of America, with special assistance from the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Meetings will focus on topics such as drug and alcohol abuse prevention, involving and protecting youth in prevention activities, developing life skills for prevention, strengthening family efforts to keep children safe, internet safety for children, teaching crime prevention to young children, and how home, school and community can deal with early warning signs of trouble.

The Boys and Girls Club of Auburn is one of only 100 clubs nationwide (out of 2,600) invited to participate. All expenses will be paid by the Dept. of Justice. "We are very proud and pleased that Supervisor White and Undersheriff D'Arcy will have an opportunity to see why Boys and Girls Clubs nationwide are so successful," Granat said.

"In an era when so many families have both parents at work during the day, community programs, such as the Auburn Boys and Girls Club, are particularly important," noted Supervisor Harriet White. "The Boys and Girls Club gives children a safe and positive place to be."

The services of the Boys and Girls Club of Auburn are \$10 per year and include tutoring, "power hour" (homework first), SMART Moves (a prevention program), the tech center (where youth have access to computers), leadership and other positive activities. "Our Club wants to meet local needs, and also wants the community to bring their ideas to us," Granat said.

Placer County has become a partner in prevention. On the recommendation of Supervisor

White and through Health and Human Services drug abuse prevention funding, the Placer County Board of Supervisors has given \$5,000 to the Auburn Boys and Girls Club over the past year, with other funding for the North Lake Tahoe Boys and Girls Club. Additionally, the Placer County Sheriff's Department has many programs involving young people, such as the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program.

The Boys and Girls Club in Auburn can be reached at 530-889-2273.



# Caltrans to Inspect Foresthill Bridge on Friday, Sept. 15, 2000

September 14, 2000

Caltrans will be inspecting the Foresthill Bridge on Friday, September 15, from 8 AM to 1 PM. Motorists should expect 5 to 10 minute delays during this period.

To perform the inspection, Caltrans will close one lane on the bridge to allow the inspection truck, called a "snooper" truck, to inspect underneath the bridge. Placer County will provide traffic control.

For further information, contact the Caltrans District Public Information Office, at 530-741-4571.



#### Study on How Best to Move Traffic To Be Reviewed

Sept. 11, 2000

The Placer County Public Works Dept. will host an open house on Wednesday, Sept. 20 to review preliminary results of a transportation planning study of the southeastern portion of the County. The study focused on the unincorporated areas south and east of Interstate 80 and south of the City of Auburn, including Granite Bay and the Loomis Basin, but the information it yields should be useful to the entire region, officials say.

Residents and business owners are encouraged to attend the review session, which will take place from 4 to 10 p.m. at the Eureka School, 5477 Eureka Rd. There will be an overview presentation at 5 p.m., repeated at 7 p.m. During the rest of the evening, staff will host displays on specific issues, answer questions and receive feedback from the public.

District 4 Supervisor Jim Williams, who represents Granite Bay, the Town of Loomis, the Loomis Basin, and parts of the Cities of Roseville and Rocklin, noted in April that many things have changed since community plans were written more than 10 years ago. "For example," he said, "a new American River bridge at Folsom has opened, and major development has taken place in Folsom, Rocklin and Roseville. People are commuting into Placer County to work because of our success in attracting good jobs, and to other local shopping venues. As Placer County's population continues to climb, we believe this tool will be useful for all South Placer jurisdictions in coordinating transportation planning."

The study's primary goal was to assess the long term transportation infrastructure needs such as roadways, signalization and bike lanes, factoring in the effects of growth in the region, and asking specifically whether an east-west route through the Loomis Basin is needed.

This Southeast Placer Circulation Study may lay the groundwork for a Neighborhood Traffic Calming program, with "tool box" of strategies which could help in various neighborhoods. A third study goal was to examine the County's current roadway design standards and to recommend changes, regarding such things as road width, design speed

and the need for sidewalks. When complete, the study will be the technical basis for potentially amending the Transportation and Circulation elements of community plans.

"Traffic planning is one of the most important and visible elements of community planning," noted Williams. "Consider taking the time to help us with the process."



#### **Dowd Road Undergoes Major Improvements**

Sept. 8, 2000

Beginning Monday, Sept. 11, a three-mile long stretch of Dowd Road ,between Riosa and Wise Road, will be closed to through traffic on weekdays during the next four to five weeks. Local traffic only may use the road during this time.

The Placer County Public Works Department is making improvements to drainage, the subsurface and the road surface, which when complete, will result in a better ride for motorists.

The road will be open from approximately 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. with a 25 m.p.h. speed limit. Residents and emergency vehicles will be allowed access during the hours of closure.



#### **County Priorities are Focus of 2000-01 Budget**

On Tuesday, Sept. 5, Placer County Supervisors held a final hearing on the County Budget for Fiscal Year 2000-01. The budget positions the County to face a range of challenges and opportunities, focusing on meeting the present and future infrastructure needs for local residents to protect the quality of life Placer residents enjoy, according to Board Chairman Harriet White. Two weeks of budget workshops held in early August provided an opportunity to explore a range of budget issues. Though the budget reflects the County's current economic prosperity, Board members have insisted that high priority be given to help meet a huge backlog of unmet road maintenance and facility needs.

"Our board has made its budget priorities very clear," said Sup. White. "The population of Placer County will grow nearly 50 percent during the next 10 years. We want to be prepared for this growth. Placer County needs to spend approximately \$218 million to build new county facilities in Auburn, Tahoe and South Placer. These facilities are essential, both to serve new residents and to replace worn out, inadequate facilities such as the Sheriff's Substation in North Lake Tahoe and the unreinforced masonry buildings of the 56-year-old DeWitt Center in Auburn." Unreinforced masonry is vulnerable to collapse during an earthquake.

The proposed budget allocates more than \$12 million for new or remodeled facility projects, including \$1 million to improve the controls at the main jail, \$2.5 million toward expanding the main jail by 96 beds, and more than \$4.4 million in projects budgeted previously but not yet spent. Those major projects moving forward included initial planning for a South Placer Criminal Justice Center, a new Sheriff's substation in North Lake Tahoe, new headquarters for the Placer County Sheriff's Department, new and remodeled facilities for land development at DeWitt Center, and upgrades to the Facility Master Plan.

Another top priority is improvements and upgrades to more than 1,000 miles of county roads, which have also had to be deferred during leaner budget years. "According to our Transportation Master Plan just completed, we need to spend an estimated \$80 million on long term road maintenance, which should extend the life of our roads up to 20 years," White said. "That's over and above our \$11 million annual road maintenance budget, which includes a \$3 million contribution from the general fund. Funds are also needed for

many other critical road construction projects, such as widening Bell Road in North Auburn, improving Auburn Folsom Road in South Placer, improvements to Fiddyment and Baseline Roads in West Placer, and an interchange at Highway 65 and Sunset Ave."

During the economic slowdown of the early 1990s Supervisors reduced or eliminated general fund contributions for road improvements. Surface treatments such asphalt concrete overlay cost \$60,000 per lane mile. However the last two years they have spent \$5 million dollars on surface treatment, and added another \$2.3 million at recent budget hearings.

"We Supervisors also recognize the need to set aside reserves for emergencies, unforeseen expenses, and future economic downturns, such as we experienced in the early 1990s," White said. During those years, Board members had to defer maintenance and consider service reductions to keep the budget balanced.

Additionally the budget prioritizes essential services. "For example, closure of the only psychiatric hospital in Placer County, a privately owned facility, has caused the County to spend far more providing mental health services," White said. "As another example, because our new Juvenile Hall houses more youthful offenders, our staffing costs increase. At the same time, we continue to refine our performance measurement tools so we can compare service costs and outcomes through the years and make sure our programs are as effective as possible."

Some quality of life issues also received special attention this year, as Supervisors added money for an agricultural marketing program and continued to provide additional support to libraries and support to parks, both of which serve many youth.

The Board will adopt its final budget of \$285 million on Tuesday, Sept. 19. A <u>copy of the</u> proposed budget is available online, along with a memo of proposed changes.

Many county budget revenues are restricted by law as to how they can be spent. Nearly \$82 million is projected to be spent on public protection (such as law enforcement, jail operations, prosecution, and probation). More than \$26.7 million will be spent on roads, while \$84 million is planned for health and human services. General government and finance, which includes items such as elections, assessment, revenue collection, auditor, personnel services, and property management, would receive \$38.6 million. Capital construction and debt service would receive \$24 million, while almost \$19 million would be in reserves set aside for building construction or to meet needs during an economic downturn. Another \$11 million is to be spent on education, recreation and promotion (for example, to attract tourists).

During the last Board meeting, Supervisor Jim Williams commented that "if you look at

the magnitude of the infrastructure deficit we have accumulated over the years in road funds, bridge reconstruction and facilities for providing government services, we are not running a surplus, but are still at a deficit.... It's like saying you're running a surplus at your house while ignoring the fact that you need to reroof, replace your dishwasher, and add a bedroom for your growing family."

Placer County's healthy local economy, success in bringing new jobs to the region and an unusually low unemployment rate, bolstered by revenues which exceeded expectations, increased value of assessed property, and particularly county spending restraints and a large number of unfilled positions in county employment, have combined to strengthen the county's financial position this year. "We have more money to spend on our critical facility needs because we tightened our belt during the recession, and have kept it relatively tight since then," declared Sup. White. "We want to continue to focus on the most important future needs."



#### State Fair Exhibit a Source of Local Pride

August 22, 2000

This year's Placer County's State Fair exhibit, *Theater of the Future*, continues a long tradition of displaying the attractions which keep the county one of the fastest growing areas in the state. This year, the exhibit looks at the county's promising future, linking high technology and a very appealing quality of life. State Fair research shows that the counties exhibits are consistently the most popular of all fair attractions with fair visitors, who topped 914,000



in 1999. The State Fair opened August 18 and will run through Labor Day, September 4th.



The Placer County exhibit won a gold medal and the State Fair's "Innovation" award. It incorporates intriguing elements like a waterfall, a sample robot from the Granite Bay High School student robot science project, and animated future-teller "Madam Destiny," who tells visitors "Your future looks bright in Placer County!"

The exhibit also includes mock film posters featuring attractive aspects of the county. They have titles like *Rattlesnake Dick and the Mines of Gold*, about Placer County's colorful Gold Rush history, and *Wonderful* 



Life, "starring Placer County's communities." The most prominent element of the exhibit is a fiberglass dome, the screen for a three-minute video highlighting Placer County life, created by volunteer Kevin Mitchell. The dome is a particularly effective attraction for fair visitors because

it displays the video both inside and outside the exhibit.

"We've won awards because of the very spirit of the people who live in Placer County," said Harriet White, Board Chair and Supervisor of District 3. "Our residents are hardworking and innovative. They're committed to maintaining the style of life which attracts visitors to the county ... who then become residents!"

Dedicated volunteers and county staff meet periodically during the year to plan each exhibit. This year's exhibit is dedicated to former Facility Services Director Larry Oddo, who passed away in April of this year, and who lead the exhibit team for many years. Thanks to the Placer County Sheriff's Department, minimum-security inmates at the county jail do much of the exhibit construction under the direct supervision of Facility Services staff Jim McCrummen and Mike Rigney.

Exhibit volunteer hosts report that visitors like the use of technology and describe it as "cool" and "neat." Some say they make a point of visiting Placer County's exhibit each year to see what's new, and they carry away information on many other county attractions. County residents express their own pride in the exhibit and routinely ask about awards. Thanks to the exhibit team's hard work and creativity, the volunteer hosts point with pride again to this year's two rosette awards.

In addition to those mentioned above, exhibit sponsors and volunteers included Performance Abatement Services, Patty's C Ave. Hair Studio, Reflections by Geri, Home Depot, Crest Carpeting, the Placer County Visitors' Information Council, The Mad Hatter, and Ross and Margaret Vetterli.



## Proposed Application to LAFCO Regarding Dry Creek Fire

August 18, 2000 (updated 8/22/00)

On August 22, 2000, Placer County Supervisors approved a proposal to the Local Agency Formation Commission - LAFCO - which could help improve the way fire protection and emergency medical aid are provided for Dry Creek residents.

In the long run, however, the issue is how best to preserve local control of public services for present and future citizens in a region expected to grow rapidly in the next 10 to 20 years.

Supervisors asked the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to dissolve Dry Creek Fire Protection District as a fire protection entity, an action the Dry Creek Fire Protection District Board itself had requested of LAFCO earlier this year.

The Dry Creek Fire Protection District Board has indicated its desire to have fire protection provided by what will soon be the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, (currently known as the American River Fire Protection District which includes one square mile of Placer County).

Concerned about the prospect of permanently relinquishing local control and the diversion of local tax dollars to an out-of-county entity, the County of Placer has proposed, instead, extending all-hazard fire protection and emergency medical aid services to the Dry Creek community through the Placer County Fire Dept. The County already provides such fire protection to over 300 square miles including the neighboring rural Lincoln area, and is based on a contract with the California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF).

"We must protect the ability of the current and future residents of the Dry Creek community to retain local control over a critical public safety service," said Mike Boyle, Assistant Director, Placer County Office of Emergency Services. "The County believes it is important that officials elected by residents of Placer County govern Placer County

services and determine the best use of county tax dollars."

The Dry Creek community will grow rapidly the next 10 to 20 years because of a new urban growth area identified in the 1994 Countywide General Plan. A range of other public services will also be needed in the Dry Creek community, which could be consolidated and managed by a single local governing entity, such as a Community Services District. Having fire service provided by a single purpose out-of-county entity would complicate such an arrangement and would hamper local control and disbursement of the new tax dollars which would be generated, Boyle said.

The County of Placer has submitted two proposals to the Dry Creek Fire Protection District Board as alternatives to the proposed Dry Creek merger with American River. The County would provide financial assistance to fund a higher level of fire service and emergency medical aid until revenues from new development become available. No additional taxes are being proposed.

On Aug. 8, the Board of Supervisors directed county staff to prepare a competing proposal to LAFCO prior to its October meeting. The issue has been discussed by LAFCO several times, but not resolved.



### **Supervisor to Host Community Coffees**

August 17, 2000

Describing himself as "newly energized" to begin a third term in January, District 5 Supervisor Rex Bloomfield is planning a series of community coffee klatches to spend time with residents and to gather information about the issues they feel are most important.

"Our district is growing and changing," he said. "Since 1990 we've had 62,000 people move to Placer County, and another 110,000 will move here within the next 10 years. While most of the explosive growth has been in the cities of South Placer, District 5 is also experiencing the effects of that growth, and we must make sure that our short term efforts and long term plans serve to protect the quality of life we all enjoy."

The first of five community meetings is slated for Monday, August 28, at 10 a.m. at the Auburn-Placer County Library. Other meetings are planned for the county libraries in Foresthill (November 14 at 10 a.m.), Colfax (Dec. 12 at noon), Applegate (January of 2001), Tahoe City (Sept. 12) and Kings Beach (Oct. 24).

Even though Supervisor Bloomfield regularly attends the monthly meetings of the six Municipal Advisory Councils in District 5, he is hoping that the library coffees will provide a less formal atmosphere and a better opportunity for conversation on any subject.

He's particularly hoping for community input on several key issues.

A consistent advocate of open space protection, he is seeking additional information from the community regarding Placer Legacy, the County's newly adopted program to conserve open space and agricultural land. "The question is, what do residents most want to see Placer Legacy accomplish in District 5?" he asks. "Should our focus be on expanding recreational opportunities such as regional trails and trailheads, protecting of particular natural resources such as blue oak woodlands, identifying specific scenic corridors, supporting outdoor education projects or something else? Are there particular projects we should consider 'top priority?'"

Many District 5 residents live in "urban wildland interface" areas with homes on steep hill sides, surrounded by flammable vegetation. The potential for dangerous, wind-whipped wildland fires in the foothills is very high. Therefore Supervisor Bloomfield is hoping for community input to develop workable plans to improve fire safety in rural areas.

"The County is currently considering requiring a vegetation management plan for new subdivisions," he said. "We also need to be sensitive to the need to preserve animal habitat. What would residents like to see in a vegetation management plan? How should we try to balance fire safety and habitat protection?"

Bloomfield cited two programs he helped establish in District 5 during the last five years which could help point the way toward greater fire safety. One is the Placer County Resource Conservation District's demonstration projects along a stretch of Placer Hills Road, and another in Foresthill, which seek to reduce the brush under the trees, thus reducing the fire danger.

Another is the chipper project implemented cooperatively with the California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection, which also serves as the Placer County Fire Dept. Under the plan, a substantial amount of the brush growing under trees in areas of high fire danger is thinned, then chipped for landscaping uses, thus reducing fire danger.

Many fires start in weeds and brush along highways and can easily reach into neighborhoods. "I am hoping to work with Caltrans to reduce that risk along highway right-of-way by reducing flammable brush," Bloomfield said. "Fires are much more easily contained if the ladder fuels are removed."

"My question to residents is this: Given people's desire to live in rural areas, how can we best address the fire issue together?" Bloomfield asks.

Other significant challenges Supervisors must face almost immediately revolve around growth: the need to plan and pay for new county facilities, both to serve additional residents and to replace aging facilities such as most of the DeWitt Center. Costs are expected to surpass \$200 million. Facility needs far surpass the additional revenues this year's good economy has meant. Up to \$80 million will be needed to perform long term maintenance on 1,000 miles of county roadway in addition to the money currently budgeted for routine maintenance, which comes from the general fund, gasoline taxes and other state and federal sources. While most counties don't use general funds for road maintenance, Placer County has been spending at least \$3 million a year from the general fund, and recently added another \$1.6 million at budget hearings. "Do residents see road maintenance as an important priority?" Bloomfield asks.

District 5 has two new park facilities – Applegate Park just completed this spring, and

another an equestrian staging area (a parking lot and trailhead) at Meadow Vista, with funding approved just last week by the Board. "Is parkland acquisition a priority for the district?" he asks.

Several constituents who met recently with Rex added their encouragement for residents to bring their comments and concerns to the library coffee klatches. Pat Bueb, Chairman of the North Auburn MAC, believes residents can and should have their say. "The Walmart project is an example which demonstrates that residents may have plenty to say about an issue," he said.

Sharon Cavallo, who served on the Citizens Advisory Committee for Placer Legacy and is a former MAC member, stressed the importance. "If people don't communicate with Supervisors, they won't have that understanding to make decisions. MAC meetings and coffee klatches are how Supervisors can best understand what issues are in the neighborhoods," she said. "It's our chance to tell government what government needs to know."

Michael Kent Murphy, a past MAC member, stressed that "It's relatively easy to be involved at the MAC level," while Meadow Vista MAC member Donna Ford cited the community involvement in the Placer Legacy project as a "great example".

While the coffee klatches and MAC meetings offer easy access to provide information to Supervisors and county staff, Supervisor Bloomfield notes that residents can also offer input on any subject by <a href="mailto:emailto



## Board Creates More Flexible Tahoe Building Permit Schedule

Aug. 16, 2000

Meeting in Tahoe earlier this month, Placer County Supervisors eased some building permit restrictions in order to help builders make the best use of Tahoe's shorter construction season.

For projects above the 5,000 foot elevation, building permits may now be issued for foundation work and rough framing prior to completion of all the subdivision improvements. Permits will now allow occupancy of the building until all improvements are complete. These early permits may be issued for up to 20 percent of the total number of lots in a subdivision.

As a protection for the community, builders who apply for early permits must provide security that subdivision improvements will be completed, and must pay a \$490 processing fee. Additionally, the County Building Official must approve a complete set of building plans, and the county and fire district must agree that necessary fire fighting facilities are in place prior to issuance of the early permit.

"We understand that Tahoe's challenging climate and special environmental protections can make construction in the mountains very difficult," said Supervisor Rex Bloomfield. "These early permits will allow greater flexibility so builders can take best advantage of the construction season."



#### New Buses Mean Cleaner Air in Tahoe Basin

August 16, 2000

It's time for cleaner air in the Tahoe Basin, according to Rex Bloomfield, Placer County District 5 Supervisor, and county Public Works staff. To achieve that goal, the County plans to buy three compressed natural gas (CNG) buses for the <u>Tahoe Area Regional</u> <u>Transit</u> system (TART), to replace three aging diesel buses.

"Eventually, I'd like to convert all TART buses to CNG," said Supervisor Bloomfield.
"It's important Placer County sets a good example and proves its commitment to clean up the air in the basin. That will be a great benefit for county residents and visitors."

On August 1, at their meeting in Tahoe, the Placer County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a resolution authorizing Acting Public Works Director Tim Hackworth to execute a contract for \$540,000 with Caltrans for Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 funds toward the purchase of the three buses. The total contract for the buses will be \$999,000, \$333,000 for each bus. The buses will be delivered for service roughly one year after the order is placed.

While buses which use CNG are considerably more expensive than diesel buses, an additional \$80,000 per unit, the Board agreed with Supervisor Bloomfield that improving air quality in the Tahoe basin justified the greater expense. As it's burned, natural gas produces substantially less pollution than other fossil fuels, with almost no sulfur emissions and very low particulates emissions. The county is already using two CNG buses in its western slope transit service.

According to the Federal Energy Information Administration, CNG is currently the fastest growing lower-emissions fuel for transit buses. Placer County has no CNG fueling facility in the Tahoe area now, and is working to establish one in the near future. It would most likely be at the TART facility, on Cabin Creek Road, outside Truckee. In the meantime, the County will work with other local agencies to establish a temporary CNG refueling station.

"The entire world values and appreciates the Tahoe area as a unique natural treasure," stressed Bloomfield. "Improving air quality in the basin is part of Placer County's overall pollution reduction efforts, and it's the right thing to do."



## **County Election Results to be Tallied Faster**

August 16, 2000

Placer County <u>Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters Jim McCauley</u> wants county residents to get their election results faster. And he's ready to use new technology to do that in November.

In last week's Board of Supervisors' budget workshop, McCauley outlined a new process for tallying voters' ballots. In a pilot program with Elections Systems and Software, ES&S, an election services computer company, the <u>Placer County Elections</u> staff would provide special ballots and electronic ballot readers at each of the county's over 200 polling places. ES&S has extensive experience in conducting elections throughout the nation.

When the Board asked about cost, McCauley explained the only cost for the pilot program would be to print the ballots. If the pilot was successful and the county adopted the new system, he expected it to reduce the cost of county elections, with savings in printing costs and in staff overtime to tally election results.

"This is a win-win situation. With this new process, voters get election results faster, and the process is very reliable. And the elections cost less to run." said Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters McCauley. "We've done our research on this technology. The company knows its business and is solid, and the county election process would remain secure."

Voters would see only minor changes. Instead of the punch card ballots used for years, ballots would look like the forms used for school tests. A voter would use a pencil or pen to fill in a small oval for each vote on an election office or issue. The ballot would be passed through an electronic scan reader, and stored in a locked box, in case of a possible re-count. The ballot information would be stored on a "smart card," an electronic card locked in the electronic reader. All voting information would be anonymous.

When the polling places closed, Elections staff would take the ballots and the "smart

cards," to the Elections Division in Auburn or to one of six remote receiving centers located throughout the county. Rather than counting ballots with the current ballot readers, staff would tally the election results from all the "smart cards." McCauley told the Board he expected to have the semi-final election results many hours sooner than usual, perhaps as early as 9:30 or 9:45 PM. He also said the new technology had more safeguards for accuracy than the current punch card ballot readers, especially if a ballot recount was necessary.

The Board of Supervisors supported the pilot test of the new elections system, and praised McCauley's willingness to test new ways to deliver the Election Division's public services. Voters can look forward to a slightly different ballot, and much faster election results in November.

McCauley will demonstrate the new ballot counting system at 11 AM at the next Board of Supervisors' meeting on Tuesday, August 22, at the County Administrative Offices at 175 Fulweiler Avenue in Auburn. He also plans to demonstrate it at various clubs and organizations throughout the county. Individuals interested in seeing how the equipment operates may call Lisa Fenocchio, Projects Coordinator at the Clerk-Recorder's Office at 530-886-5696 to arrange a demonstration.



#### **CIMBL Celebrates Six Years of Service**

August 15, 2000

CIMBL - Citizens Involved Means Better Living - celebrated its six year anniversary of service to the community with cake, cold drinks and words of appreciation.

Lincoln Mayor Don Noyes and Placer County Supervisor Robert Weygandt joined in the festivities which celebrated more CIMBL volunteers who picked up trash



along more than 1,200 miles of roadways, gathering more than 12,000 bags of garbage, which including nearly 1,200 tires.

Coordinator Hal Albertsen, who founded and spearheads the volunteer group, noted that seniors such as Vic Hossli, 86, have been among the most dedicated to the roadside litter pick up efforts, setting the pace for much younger members. "It's sad that people throw trash along the road," he said. "But I have been pleased to be out working with these CIMBL people. This is a great group to be with."

CIMBL always welcomes new volunteers. For further information, contact Albertsen at 916-645-3599.



### **County Adds Money to Road Maintenance Budget**

August 10, 2000

Reaffirming their desire to invest in good roads, Placer County Supervisors have added another \$1.6 million in one-time general fund money for long term road maintenance projects. These funds will pay for asphalt overlay treatments on 12 to 15 miles of major county roads. Asphalt overlays extend the life of the road by 10 years or more, and provide a smoother ride to motorists.

The Board's action today, which had been recommended if funding was available, is in addition to approximately \$12 million already allocated for road maintenance. Of the \$12 million, more than \$3 million comes from the general fund and most of the rest comes from state and federal sources such as gas taxes.

Today's decision will likely bring overlay treatments to sections of Baseline Road, Bell Road, Nicolaus Road, Stanley Drive, Virginia Drive, East Roseville Parkway, Auburn Folsom Road, McCourtney Road and some roads in Penryn.

"The Board has provided extraordinary support to our road maintenance program," noted Tim Hackworth, Acting Public Works Director. "Placer County is one of the very few counties which allocates general funds to road maintenance."

"A rigorous maintenance program is our best defense against roadway deterioration," Hackworth added. "If done in a timely manner, resurfacing such as slurry seal and overlays can greatly reduce the need for more labor-intensive crack seals and pothole repairs, and increase the life of our roadways at the least long-term cost."

Another 20 miles of residential roads will receive a slurry seal treatment, while about 70 miles of rural roads will be chip sealed. Work will begin in the fall or spring.



# Under Consideration: County Center at Charter Hospital Location

August 10, 2000

A former 80-bed, privately-operated, regional psychiatric hospital could become a center to treat up to 30 local patients and house other county services for South Placer residents under a plan described to the Board of Supervisors this week.

During budget hearings on Monday, Ray Merz, Director of Health and Human Services, described a critical shortage of inpatient facilities available to help local residents experiencing mental illness. This shortage comes as a result of the sudden closure of Charter Hospital in Roseville last February. Charter, which provided intensive services to patients from throughout Northern California, was the only psychiatric facility available in Placer County. This is the first time in 30 years that Placer has not had an in-patient facility.

County mental health professionals are still considering other options, but may recommend to the Board that the County lease the now-vacant Charter Hospital and operating the facility to serve local patients only. The Board may consider the issue Aug. 22.

Darell Ford, Deputy County Executive Officer, said that there is an extreme shortage of appropriate treatment facilities, even in surrounding counties. "The closure of Charter and loss of 80 treatment beds has left the Placer County mental health program in a 'fragile situation' with few feasible alternatives," he said. "We must compete with Sacramento and other counties who also need the few available mental health beds, resulting in some of our residents having to travel as far as Fresno to receive services. In addition, city and county law enforcement personnel sometimes find themselves transporting patients long distances to out-of-county facilities in emergency situations, and then being unavailable to respond to other calls. Our local hospitals such as Sutter Roseville also feel the impacts because many patients end up in emergency rooms while mental health professionals try to find an available bed."

Over the course of a year, in 1998-99 for example, a total of 221 Placer County adults and 73 adolescents required inpatient treatment at Charter Hospital. Nearly half had lived in Roseville. "These are our neighbors, severely disabled, who need our help," he said.

Ford also emphasized that "criminal offenders with mental health problems need specialized treatment and would be housed in a new program that will be located near the Main Jail in Auburn."

According to Ford, the Charter Hospital closing has also had severe budget implications for Placer County, with increased costs estimated to be \$1.3 to \$1.5 million each year, not counting the costs to law enforcement, local hospitals and families of patients needing treatment. The sudden closure of Charter left the county's mental health budgets far out of balance, requiring the County to shift funds from other priorities.

"Importantly, leasing the facility formerly owned by Charter would not necessarily save us money, but it would guarantee that high-quality mental health care is available locally for our residents," Ford said.

Under one scenario, 15 beds would be used for intensive inpatient care and another 15 beds for people who need less intensive care. The rest of the space could be used as office space to help consolidate County services currently located in other leased facilities in Roseville, such as the County's Adult System of Care and 24-hour emergency care line.

County staff have discussed the potential use of the former Charter Hospital facility with City of Roseville staff, and are continuing discussions with the current property owner to determine whether leasing the facility would be a good business decision.



### **Granite Bay Community Park Moves Forward**

August 8, 2000

A new 16.5-acre Granite Bay Community Park moved closer to reality today with a decision by the Placer County Board of Supervisors. The Board thanked representatives of the Princeton Reach Homeowners Association for their efforts in resolving park issues.

Two ball fields, picnic areas, play grounds and bicycle trails are among the amenities Granite Bay residents can someday expect to enjoy at the park which will be located at Douglas Blvd. and Barton Road. Another 6.5 acres will remain undisturbed to protect wetlands, riparian corridors and oak woodlands, and to offer a natural interpretive area for visitors to enjoy.

"I am very pleased to see that all parties have come to an agreement," said Supervisor Jim Williams, who represents the community. "Now we're set to move ahead with this much needed facility. Granite Bay still has a shortage of parks, and we'll continue to look for innovative solutions."

Granite Bay community activist Ron Bakken noted that this park has been "a long time coming. We are grateful to all who helped make it happen," he said.

Preliminary planning has been completed. Next steps include contracting with a landscape architect to do construction drawings of the park, and developing a plan to pay for park maintenance.



### **County Child Support Collections Reach Record High**

August 3, 2000

Placer County District Attorney Brad Fenocchio has announced that the Placer County District Attorney's Family Support Division collected more than \$14.4 million in child support last year, from July 1999 through June, 2000. This represented a 16.7% increase, more than twice the reported 8% average increase statewide, over collections in the prior fiscal year, from July 1998 through June 1999, when the division collected over \$12.3 million.

To thank the Family Support Division staff, the Placer County District Attorney's management staff hosted a brunch at the Family Support Division office in Auburn on July 20, 2000. Management staff prepared and served the brunch to the division's employees. According to Fennochio, this was a unique and fun way to recognize the hard work done by the staff over the past year, which resulted in the record amount of collections.

The DA's office attributes the \$2 million increase in collections, in part, to a reorganization of job duties in the Family Support Division that took place when the Division began using the KIDZ computer system in June, 1999. The reorganization focused on providing better service to the public, and included the creation of a separate public service unit to handle most of the public contact with the office.



# Planning for Future Focus of County Budget Workshops

July 28, 2000

Improvements to county roads, county facilities and other long term infrastructure needs are expected to top the list of priorities as Placer County Supervisors start five days of workshops examining the proposed 2000-2001 County Budget.

During April's budget workshops, Supervisors stressed the importance of using available funds to meet existing and future facility needs to serve a growing population.

As the second fastest growing county in California, Placer County's population is expected to grow from 234,000 today to more than 400,000 by 2020.

Over the next few years, Placer County needs to spend more than \$100 million to build facilities to serve future county residents, and another \$100 million to replace deficient facilities, such as the 56-year-old DeWitt Center and the Sheriff's Substation in North Lake Tahoe.

"Our ability to plan and pay for new facilities is much brighter this year because the Cities of Roseville and Rocklin have joined Placer County and parts of Lincoln in requiring new development to pay a county facility impact fee," said Don Lunsford, County Executive Officer. "Additionally, new development in the County is also paying transportation mitigation fees. Requiring new development to pay its own way lessens the burden on people who already live here. We look forward to working with the rest of our cities on this issue."

Topping the list of facilities needed and likely to receive some funding are jail beds and treatment programs for adult and juvenile offenders. Among the transportation projects moving forward are the Bell Road widening project, Highway 49 improvements, long term road maintenance, a south east Placer Circulation study and interregional cooperation on proposals including a Hwy 65 bypass of Lincoln and Placer Parkway.

Supervisors approved the proposed \$270 million budget as an interim spending plan in June, and must review, then approve a Final Budget by the end of September. Budget workshops will be held August 2, 4, 7, 9 and 11 beginning at 9 a.m. at the County Administrative Center, 175 Fulweiler Ave. in Auburn. <u>Placer County's proposed budget</u> is posted on the County's Web site. Copies may also be viewed at several county offices and libraries.

Many county budget revenues are restricted by law as to how they can be spent. Nearly \$80 million is projected to be spent on public protection (such as law enforcement, jail operations, prosecution, and probation). Another \$23 million is set aside for roads, while \$82 million is planned for health and human services. General government and finance, which includes items such as elections, assessment, revenue collection, auditor, personnel services, and property management, would receive almost \$38 million. Capital construction and debt service would receive \$22.5 million. \$15 million would be in reserves, including reserves set aside for building construction or to meet needs during an economic downturn.



### Year 2000 Road Work in Placer County

7/26/00

Good summer weather means it's time for Placer County road improvement projects. County road crews and contractors do important preventive maintenance work on county roads to extend the life of county roads and improve their quality and smoothness. While the work is important to county residents and visitors, it can also affect driving plans. It's good to know in advance when work is planned in your area, to leave a little extra time in your driving schedule.

The work scheduled on Placer County roads is slurry seal work and asphalt concrete overlay paving, which is a major road surface improvement. Overlay paving can extend the life of a road by up to 10 years. The work schedules below are the current tentative schedule for road maintenance work by county crews and the county contractor. However, changes in weather and equipment difficulties may cause schedule changes at any time.

Before beginning the asphalt concrete overlay paving work, the county contractor, Evans Grading and Paving, will prepare the road for the overlay a day or two before starting to pave, and there may be brief traffic delays. In addition, when the paving work is complete, the contractor will return to do finish work, like raising manhole covers, which may also cause occasional brief traffic delays.

The tentative overlay schedule in the western section of the county is:

- Applegate area Crother Road from Placer Hills Road to Lake Arthur Road, Monday, August 14
- North Auburn area Dry Creek Road from Hwy 49 to Black Oak Lane, Tuesday through Thursday, August 15 17
- Auburn Auburn Memorial Hall, Friday, August 18
- Foresthill area Happy Pines Drive from Glen Drive to Green Leaf Lane, Monday and Tuesday, August 21 and 22
- Lincoln area Nicolaus Road from Maverick Lane to Canal Road, Wednesday, August 23

- Loomis area Horseshoe Bar Road from the Loomis town limit to Tudsbury Road, Thursday, Friday and Monday, August 24, 25 and 28
- Roseville area Old Auburn Road from Sierra College Blvd. to the Roseville city limit, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 29 and 30
- Roseville area Baseline Road from Watt Ave. to Country Acres, Tuesday and Wednesday, September 5 and 6

The tentative overlay schedule for the Tahoe area is:

- Kings Beach Steelhead and Coon Streets, Monday, July 31
- Kings Beach Steelhead, Brook and Bear Streets, Tuesday, August 1
- Kings Beach Steelhead, Deer and Secline Streets, Wednesday, August 2
- Tahoe City Sequoia Avenue, Thursday, August 3
- Tahoe City Sequoia Avenue, Monday, August 7

The tentative slurry seal schedule for the Tahoe area is:

- Wednesday, July 27
- Tahoe Estates area, on Mountain Circle, Tamarack Road, Wild Rose
- Carnelian Heights area, on Carnelian Circle
- **Dollar Point area,** on Dardanelles Ave., Edgewater Dr., Edgecliff Ct., Edgecliff Way, and Skyland Way
- Thursday, July 28 Dollar Point area, on Edgewater Dr., Tahoma Way, Shasta Way., Diablo Way, Edgewood Dr., Observation Ct., and Observation Dr.
- Tuesday, August 1 Panorama and Dollar Point areas, on Lassen Dr., Lakewood Ln., Briarwood Cir., Panorama, and Dollar Dr.
- Wednesday, August 2 Dollar Point area, on McComas Ct., Meadowbrook Ct., Montemar Ct., Meadowbrook Dr., Roundridge Rd., Echo Way, and Mammoth Dr.
- Thursday, August 3 Dollar Point area, on Observation Dr., Shasta Ct., Toiyabe Ct., Trinity Ct., Whitney Ct., and Marlette Dr.
- Friday, August 4 McKinney area, on Cascade Cir., Cascade Dr., Crystal Way, Emerald Cir., Gray Ave., Lewis Ave., McKinney Ct., Sherwood Ct., and Wildcrest Rd.
- Monday, August 7 McKinney area, on Woodside Ct., Woodside Dr., Evergreen Way, Pine Ridge Road, Springs Ct., and McKinney Creek Rd.
- Tuesday, August 8 South McKinney area, on Deer Ave., El Dorado St., Elm St., Knobcone St., Marla Ct., McKinney Creek Road, Moana Cir., Placer St., and Robin Rd.

Placer County has over 1,000 miles of county-maintained roads. Routine roadway maintenance protects the county's investment in its essential infrastructure. There are

three types of road maintenance work common in Placer County, including:

- Slurry seal, which seals the road surface and makes it more resistance to moisture, preventing roadbed damage
- Chip and seal, which seals the road surface and also fills in minor surface cracks
- Asphalt concrete overlay paving, which replaces several inches of the roadbed surface

In addition to the overlay paving work scheduled this season, Placer County has nearly completed 50 miles of slurry seal road maintenance throughout the county, and is midway through its chip and seal maintenance on 90 miles of county roads. For further information on this and other road work, call the county road construction office, at 530-889-7558.



### **Mosquito Abatement District to Receive Funds**

July 25, 2000

Picnickers, rejoice. South Placer County property owners have agreed to pay for the cost of killing mosquitoes.

A special ballot measure, which was mailed to property owners in May, drew 25,185 responses, with 73 percent voting to approve an assessment for the Placer Mosquito Abatement District. A simple majority vote would have been adequate to approve the measure.

"No one likes to be bitten by mosquitoes, and with our many ponds, we have had plenty of these pests," observed Brad Banner, Placer County Environmental Health Director. "By taking this action voters have chosen to protect themselves, their families and their animals against possible spread of disease as well as the discomfort of mosquito bites."

Mosquitoes carry potentially serious diseases such as western equine encephalitis, malaria and yellow fever. Western equine encephalitis has been discovered periodically in local sentinel chicken flocks.

The assessments will vary based on the kind of property. Owners of single family homes, for example, will pay \$12.54 per year, while agricultural properties will be assessed \$1.25 per acre up to a maximum of \$25.08 per parcel. Assessments on business properties also vary, but the maximum is \$62.70 per property. Only parcel owners received ballots, and their votes were weighted based how much they would be required to pay and the benefit they would receive. Therefore the vote of the owner of two home parcels counted twice as much as the vote of the owner of a single home.

The Placer County's Mosquito Abatement District will begin collecting money via tax bills in December of 2000 for areas around Roseville, Rocklin, Loomis, Granite Bay, Penryn and Newcastle, generally to the boundaries of Auburn. The Lincoln area had previously approved funding for mosquito abatement.

Money to be collected will be spent on things such as eliminating mosquitoes in their water stage, reducing the source of mosquito larvae with mosquito fish, monitoring diseases associated with local mosquitoes, fogging to reduce adult populations, and public education.



### Palm Trees Could Be Designated as "Landmark Trees"

July 7, 2000

The hundred-year-old palm trees which line several county roads in Penryn could be designated as "landmark trees" and therefore subject to special protection under a proposal to be reviewed by Placer County Supervisors during their meeting on Tuesday, July 11. The meeting begins at 9 a.m.; the item regarding palms will be reviewed at 9:45 a. m.

Most of the 500 plus palm trees which still stand along English Colony Way, Butler, Sisley, Humphrey, Del Mar and Clark Tunnel Roads are believed to have been planted in about 1893 at the direction of cattle rancher Joel Parker Whitney, who owned thousands of acres of land. Whitney founded the "Placer Citrus Colony Company," a group of English settlers who sought to grow and market citrus crops. Originally there were believed to be 1,000 California Fan Palms and Mexican Fan Palms.

If Supervisors designate the trees as "Landmark Trees," they will be protected under Placer County's Tree Preservation Ordinance. Supervisors could also authorize use of the existing Tree Preservation Ordinance Fund to replace dead or dying trees, or trees that need to be removed, subject to the approval of property owners.

Last December, the Penryn Area Municipal Advisory Council unanimously supported this proposal to protect the trees. "They are a beautiful and important historical treasure," noted Supervisor Robert Weygandt, who represents the area.



## County Wins Grants to Help Fix Water Systems and Homes

July 3, 2000

Good news arrived on Friday for Placer County residents: County grant applications to help homeowners and home buyers have been approved by the State.

Topping the list was an award of \$500,000 from the State's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, a grant application submitted by staff and the Board in April.

About half of the CDGB grant will to help improve the drinking water supply for 40 plus homes in the Merry Knoll Lane neighborhood just east of the City of Auburn off Mt. Vernon Road. Currently residents have no supply of treated drinking water. Some have wells, but some must rely on purchasing bottled water for drinking. The surface water many residents have is not considered suitable for drinking.

Placer County and the Placer County Water Agency will work together on this project, which will help finance the installation of a water system for the area.

More than \$200,000 in CDBG grant funds will go for housing rehabilitation, part of which will be spent in Kings Beach, and part in Foresthill. This money will be available in the form of low interest home rehabilitation loans. Homes can be repaired to correct basic health and safety concerns and to extend the useful life of the structures. An earlier study had shown that up to half of the homes needed some repair.

"Repairing older homes continues to be one of the most cost effective means of improving and preserving affordable housing," said Supervisor Rex Bloomfield. "We are pleased to see this grant awarded."

On Friday officials also received the go-ahead to use \$500,000 in state funds to assist first time home buyers in Placer County whose income is less than 80 percent of the median within the county. Qualified would-be buyers, in this case residents of the unincorporated

County Wins Grants to Help Fix Water Systems and Homes -- Placer County, Calif.

area, will be eligible to borrow up to \$35,000 in "gap" financing to make first mortgage payments affordable. Redevelopment funds will also help with this project.

"When our Board adopted its Affordable Housing Strategy in April of 1999, we identified housing rehabilitation and the first time home buyers programs as our first priorities," said Supervisor White. "The success we are beginning to experience is very rewarding."



# Placer County Health Team Works with Families Following Death

June 15, 2000

More than 25 Placer County Public Health professionals have been contacting families of 300 Del Oro High School students and other individuals who may have come into contact with a student who died of meningococcal blood infection on Monday.

While the disease is rare, health professionals want to take no chances and students, friends and family members who may have had close personal contact are being advised to take antibiotics to prevent the disease.

This disease is spread by close personal contact, such as sharing drinks or kissing, so the team of nurses and doctors is asking who may have had such contact during the few days prior to the student's death. Health professionals are seeking students who attended a splash party, graduation parties or other social events with the student, John Garcia, during that time frame he would likely have been contagious, from approximately June 3 through June 12 when he died.

However Dr. Richard Burton, Placer County Public Health Officer, stressed that "There is absolutely no indication that John contracted this tragic disease at any of the recent gatherings.

"The disease is NOT spread by casual contact, through the water or by breathing the air of a person who is carrying the disease," Burton said. "It is spread by directly sharing bodily fluids, such as saliva.

"Most people don't get this disease even if they are exposed," Dr. Burton said. "Even with exposure, only one half of one percent of people develop the illness. However, if anyone believes they have had close personal contact or feels at risk, they should contact us or their personal physician."

The symptoms are flu-like, including sudden fever, headaches, neck pain and stiffness.

Placer County officials have been working closely with the school, with the family and with friends to identify and telephone people who may have had close personal contact, and believe they have reached most. Their efforts are continuing. However, anyone who needs more information should contact the Placer County Health and Human Services at 530-889-7141, or their own doctor.

"We always work aggressively when instances of meningitis or meningicoccal blood infection occur," said Burton. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of this young person who has died.

"We have had no reports of additional related cases. We are confident that the reasonable precautions being taken will protect the community."

For further information, contact the Placer County Health Officer, Dr. Richard Burton, at 530-889-7119.



### **Great Opportunity for Job Seekers**

June 13, 2000

Don't just dream about starting the perfect career or about re-entering the job market – do it! The free Placer County Job Fair is your ticket to a bright future. With headlines about the current low unemployment rate, local employers are eager to find well-qualified, enthusiastic employees to fill hundreds of jobs.

The Job Fair, sponsored by the County of Placer, will be held Wednesday, June 21, from 10 AM to 3 PM at Johnson Hall and Jones Hall at the Placer County Fairgrounds, at 800 All American City Boulevard, in Roseville.

Representatives from 45 <u>large and small companies</u> will have jobs for employees at all skill levels. You'll find opportunities in the high tech fields, health care, the Internet, corrections, production, the recreation industry, administration, food preparation, and with Placer County, the City of Roseville, and the State of California.

Get in on the ground floor – in addition to current local employers, several companies relocating to Placer County will be seeking new employees. For example, companies at the new Roseville Galleria will offer jobs in retail.

Along with job information, pump up your job application skills. Don't miss the chance to get free professional help with your resume, or to attend seminars on how to *Dress to Impress*, and on *Interviewing Tips*.

You'll find other convenient job search opportunities at the Fair. The State of California will offer on-site testing for some state jobs, including key data operator. Also, you will be able to demonstrate typing and other skills. Don't miss this great chance to find your dream job.

The Job Fair is sponsored by the Placer County <u>Business Advantage Network</u>. For more information on the Fair, call 530-889-4090 or 916-625-1000. Visit the Placer County <u>CalWORKs</u> Web pages for more job information (www.placer.ca.gov/calworks). Use the

county's Web site to learn of Placer County jobs (www.placer.ca.gov/jobs).

This is the list of companies which have confirmed their plans to attend the Fair:

- ACE Hardware
- Alpha Staffing Inc.
- Auburn Ravine Terrace
- Beeswax Designs, Inc.
- Best Buy (Roseville)
- California Dept. of Corrections
- CalTrans
- California State Personnel Board
- City of Roseville
- Coherent
- Del Webb Corp.
- California Employment Dev. Dept. (Roseville)
- Experience Works / Green Thumb
- 4-H After-school Child Care
- Gap Inc. Direct
- Galil Motion Control, Inc.
- Heald College
- Interim Personnel
- Kaiser Permanente
- Laidlaw Transit Services, Inc.
- Macy's Department Store
- Meldisco Motivational Systems, Inc.

- Mountain Peoples Warehouse
- NEC Electronics, Inc.
- Northstar at Tahoe
- Office Team
- OneMain.com
- Orchard Supply Hardware
- Performance Polymer Technologies
- Placer County Office of Education
- Placer County Personnel Dept.
- Placer County Sheriff's Office
- Remedy Intelligent Staffing
- Rhino Systems
- Roseville Communications Company
- Sears
- Target Store
- TASQ Technology
- TechStaff
- TSU Staffing
- United Parcel Service
- Volt Services Group
- Walgreens
- West Coast Cabinets, Inc.

#### Placer County's Business Advantage Network Partners:

- Placer County Office of Economic Development
- State of California Employment Development Department
- Placer County CalWORKs
- Golden Sierra Job Training
- Agency Advocacy, Resources & Choices
- Sierra College
- Heald College
- Department of Rehabilitation
- Pride Industries





### **Charter Review Committee Holds Public Hearings**

6/7/00

Placer County's <u>Charter Review Committee</u>, appointed by the Board of Supervisors to recommend possible changes to the <u>County's Charter</u>, will hold two public hearings to hear input from the community as part of their review.

On Wednesday, June 21, the Committee will meet at the North Tahoe Community Conference Center, 8318 North Lake Blvd., Kings Beach, beginning at 7 p.m. The Committee will also meet on Thursday, June 22, at the <u>County Administrative Center</u>, 175 Fulweiler Ave., in Auburn, also beginning at 7 p.m.

According to the County Charter, a Charter Review Committee is to be appointed every five years to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for possible amendments to the Charter. Supervisors may put these recommendations or others on the ballot. Voters must ultimately approve any amendments to the Charter.

In this case, the Board of Supervisors has requested that the committee review and provide recommendations on consolidation of county offices, including the financial offices, and whether such consolidated offices should be headed by an appointed or elected official. Currently both the Treasurer-Tax Collector and the Auditor-Controller are elected. Board members have asked Charter Review Committee members to provide a recommendation regarding office consolidation by June 30.

Residents are encouraged to comment on these issues or any other potential changes to the charter. The Placer County Charter is available online at www.placer.ca.gov. Other copies are available at the Roseville Public Library (225 Taylor St.), the County Library at Tahoe City (740 North Lake Blvd.), the Auburn-Placer County Library (350 Nevada St.), or the Placer County Executive Office (175 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn). Future public hearings will be scheduled to receive input on other Charter issues.

Comments may be made at Committee hearings, by mail to the Charter Review Committee, 175 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn, CA 95603; by email to Michael Paddock in the

Charter Review Committee Holds Public Hearings -- Placer County, Calif.

County Executive Office (mpaddock@placer.ca.gov), or at 530-889-4030.



### Placer Legacy Public Review Draft Is Online

6/5/00

Residents interested in Placer Legacy – Placer County's proposed program to protect open space and farm lands – may wish to offer their comments on the public review draft during the next meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Thursday, June 8, at 7 p. m. in the Rose Room of Auburn's City Hall.

A <u>complete copy of the draft</u> is available on the Placer County Web site (www.placer.ca. gov/legacy) and in libraries. Other information, including a complete list of recommendations made by the Citizen Advisory Committee to the Board of Supervisors, is also included in the site.

For the convenience of the public, the Board of Supervisors will also hold its next session to discuss Placer Legacy at night, at 6:30 p.m. on June 20 at the County Administrative Center, 175 Fulweiler Ave. in Auburn.

Board members have already agreed to several key principles regarding Placer Legacy – that only willing buyers and willing sellers be involved; that Legacy should implement existing community plans and the County General Plan; and that landowners, residents and the community should all benefit from open space conservation efforts. They need to make future decisions regarding how the program should be funded.

Recommendations from the Citizen Advisory Committee have included creating large open space parks, linking trails, purchasing conservation easements from farmers which allow farming to continue, providing marketing support for local agricultural products, protection of some natural areas such as oak woodlands and creeks, and outdoor education for children, plus dozens more.



## **County Options Career Camp Seeks Campers**

6/2/00

The Options Career Camp, co-sponsored by the Tahoe National Forest and Placer County Health and Human Services, is recruiting high school-aged students who are interested in exploring careers in the outdoors. The camp is located in the Tahoe National Forest and will provide hands-on learning experiences for interested students at no cost. For more information and an application, please call Placer County Health's Prevention Program, 530-886-3567.



## **County Web Site Adds Services & Information**

While Placer County Government Week May 21-27 is a good time to visit County offices, staff are actually working to lessen residents' need to do so by adding more information and services online at the county's Web site ( www.placer.ca.gov).

"Busy people can't always get to county offices during so-called 'normal business hours', so we are gradually increasing the county's use of its Web site as a means of providing more information and services 24-hours-a-day," said Don Lunsford, County Executive Officer. "Online information and services are particularly valuable in Placer County because of the county's size, and our challenging winter weather. The site also helps reduce air pollution by reducing the number of vehicle trips needed to conduct county business."

Recent additions include both commonly-requested information and some forms which can be filled out online, then printed and mailed or faxed to the appropriate county office. Here are some recently-added improvements:

- For those interested in <u>county land use</u>, many county planning documents, or links to documents. This includes the county's General Plan, the Zoning Ordinance, and the Environmental Review section of the County Code, as well as several of the county's community plans.
- For those interested in local government, new Web pages for many <u>county</u> <u>committees and commissions</u>, with plans to add pages for more committees and commissions in the near future.
- For those interested in building in the county, <u>online copies of county building</u> permits .
- For those interested in working for Placer County, information on <u>current county</u> <u>jobs</u> and the job application process.
- For those who would like to do business with Placer County, an <u>online application</u> to be included in the county's vendor file (to receive notices of opportunities to bid for county purchases of goods or services).
- For those interested in local, state and federal elections, <u>important county election</u> information, including election results and an online application to be a poll

worker.

- For those doing business in Placer County, current economic news and information on help for local employers through the Office of Economic Development, and CalWORKs.
- For those who love the county's rich gold rush history, <u>a volunteer application to complete online</u>, then print and mail or fax to the county's Museums Department.
- For any county resident, improved information on how to <u>contact all county</u> departments and locate county offices.
- As before, you can also send e-mail messages to <u>Placer County Supervisors</u> and most other elected officials or other staff.

"Our goal to help people conduct business and communicate with Placer County more conveniently, by using a computer from their home or office," Lunsford said. "Our Web site is available 24 hours a day, and new material is added weekly. Best advice: visit the site and save yourself a trip."

For further information or to make suggestions, contact the Web Manager, <u>Susan Prince</u>, or at 530-889-4080.



## Greenheck Fan Corporation Moves to County

May 17, 2000

Greenheck, American's leading manufacturer of ventilation equipment, is planning to move to Placer County's Sunset Industrial Area, bringing approximately 150 jobs during the next two years.

The new 106,000 square foot manufacturing facility will be located just to the north of Sunset Boulevard and Highway 65, with eventual plans to grow to 250,000 square feet. Greenheck designs, manufactures and ships ventilation systems around the world.

Placer County Supervisor Robert Weygandt said the new firm will help anchor a new section of the Sunset Industrial Area, which he represents. "Greenheck will bring more primary wage earner jobs to the Sunset Industrial Area, which has always been our goal and the reason we carefully planned and zoned the region for business and industry. We are proud to welcome Greenheck to the community."

While the proposed facility will be new, the company itself has been in business since 1947. Today, approximately 1400 employees manufacture and distribute more than 200 different products for commercial and industrial air movement control. Greenheck operates out of 11 different facilities in Schofield, WI. They have four distribution centers located around the country and another manufacturing facility located in Frankfort, KY.

Greenheck's primary markets are in the US, Canada, Mexico and Latin America, the Middle East and Pacific Rim.



# County Government Week & Public Works Week May 21 through 27

May 16, 2000

Placer County will celebrate both County Government Week and Public Works Week May 21-27 with various activities planned to help educate the community about the services provided by the county.

On Monday, May 22, Placer County will honor volunteers who assist in providing county government services, including volunteers for the Sheriff, the Museum, CIMBL and the Health Department. Festivities are planned for 10 a.m. at Burback Hall (the Senior Center), 11577 E Avenue, DeWitt. At noon on Monday, the County will treat seniors to an ice cream party in the same location in celebration of Older Americans Month.

On Tuesday, May 23, County Government Day activities at DeWitt Center will take place all day at First and B Avenue, DeWitt Center. More than 400 school children will visit displays offered by the Sheriff's office, Elections, Health and Human Services, Museums, and Courts and others. Residents are also welcome to visit this event. Space is available for a few additional school groups; please call to make a reservation.

On Wednesday, May 24, Public Works Day at DeWitt Center will feature innovative displays from Public Works and Facility Services departments, which again will serve 500 or more school children. The public is also welcome to attend this event.

Also on Wednesday, Placer County's Archives will host an Open House from 1 to 3 p.m. Located at 11437 D Avenue, the Archives contain a wealth of interesting historic documents, such as century-old minutes of the Board of Supervisors. Stop by for a glimpse into the past.

Thursday's event is County Government Day in South Placer County. About 700 5th graders from the Eureka Union School District and the Loomis Union School District will participate in hands-on displays from the Sheriff's Office, Health, Public Works, Elections, Facility Services, Museums, District Attorney, Courts and other departments.

County Government Week and Public Works Week - May 21-27 -- Placer County, Calif.

This event is not open to the public because it is being held on campus at Eureka School.

Admission at all Placer County Museums will be free in celebration of County Government Week. The new Citizens Guide to County Services 2000 is also expected to be available on Friday, May 26 through the Public Information Office, 530-889-4012, and through other county facilities the following week.



## Board Accepts Committee's *Placer Legacy*Recommendations

May 3, 2000

Should Placer County establish large regional open space parks near urban areas, higher in the foothills or both? Should scenic corridors be protected through Placer Legacy when owners are willing? Should the County help farmers market local farm products as a means of protecting agriculture?

These questions and others were addressed during the April 25, 2000 Board of Supervisors meeting, as Board members continued to draft a blue print for their open space and farm land conservation program, now known as Placer Legacy.

After a presentation on a series of recommendations developed by its Citizen Advisory Committee, and hearing public comment on the topic, the Board accepted the committee's series of recommendations. It directed county staff to shape the recommendations into a clearly defined plan. The Board also agreed to discuss the program again in May. At their May meeting, the Board will hear an analysis of the fiscal impact of the Placer Legacy project, and review finance and governance options.

In April of 1998, the Board agreed, by a unanimous vote, to have Planning staff prepare an open space conservation program to protect a variety of open space resources in the county, including biological resources, outdoor recreation, agriculture, scenic areas, public safety areas, community edges and buffers. Next the Board appointed its Citizen Advisory Committee, representing highly diverse community interests, to research successful programs elsewhere, to receive suggestions from the community, and to advise the Board on how best to create a local program.

To date, the Board of Supervisors has agreed that open space conservation should involve only "willing sellers" and "willing buyers," and that Placer Legacy will implement the current community plans and countywide general plan. Board members have further noted that conservation efforts should benefit both the community and the land owner, and that protecting open space will require broad community support.

The Board will again consider the Placer Legacy program during their regular meeting on May 23, 2000. The Citizens Advisory Committee will meet on May 16, 2000, 7 to 9:30 PM, in Geitzen Hall, at 226 Sacramento Street, in Auburn. The Board and the Citizens Advisory Committee also plan to meet on June 20, 2000, although time and location for that meeting have not yet been established. For further information about the upcoming Board meetings, contact the Clerk of the Board at 530-889-4020.

Charter Review Organizational Meeting to Take Place -- Placer County, Calif.



## **Charter Review Organizational Meeting to Take Place**

Placer County's Charter Review Committee will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, May 3, at 3:30 p.m. at the County Administrative Center, 175 Fulweiler Ave. in Auburn.

Supervisors have asked the Committee to review the issue of office consolidation, and to bring back a report to the Board regarding that issue by June 30. The Committee will also consider other changes to the County's Charter.

At Wednesday's meeting committee members will decide upon a <u>meeting schedule</u> and select a chairman. All meetings are open to the public.



## **Spring Rabies Clinics Offer Low-Cost Immunization**

Updated - April 14, 2000

Springtime in Placer County brings bright flowers, changeable weather, and annual spring rabies vaccination clinics. Placer County Animal Control and many participating county veterinarians are sponsoring \$5 rabies immunizations for cats and dogs. "I hope all pet owners take this opportunity to get their dogs and cats vaccinated," said Animal Control Program Manager Pat Claerbout. "Rabies is always fatal, but it's easily prevented with a vaccine. We animal lovers are responsible to protect our pets, and to reduce the risk to our family members and neighbors that rabies represents."

Claerbout also said that it was especially important for pet owners in Placer County to have their pets immunized, since the county has one of the highest rates of reported cases of rabies in California. While most rabies cases are found in skunks and bats, the county has already had one documented case this year of rabies in a dog. Animal owners should consult a veterinarian to confirm the appropriate immunization schedule for their animal. County Animal Control and local vets regularly work together to reduce the risk to public health by cooperating in the spring clinic program.

Pet owners are required by state law to vaccinate their dogs each year for rabies, starting when the dog is four months old. While it's not required by law, veterinarians also strongly recommend cats be vaccinated because there is a higher incidence of rabies in cats than in dogs. Claerbout mentioned one final reason for having a pet vaccinated. If a vaccinated animal bites someone, that animal may be quarantined at its owner's home, while an unvaccinated animal must be quarantined at the animal shelter or with a veterinarian.

Spring rabies vaccination clinics schedule:

#### **Auburn**

 Animal Medical Center, 1525 Grass Valley Hwy (823-5166), April 15 and 22 during regular business hours

- Animal Spay/Neuter, 11458 C Ave., DeWitt Center (885-7877), Every Tues., Wed., Thurs., between 10 AM and 2 PM
- Bowman Vet Clinic, 100 Old Airport Road (823-6306), during normal business hours in April and May
- Companion Vet Clinic, 105 Auburn Folsom Road (885-3251), during normal business hours in April and May
- Edgewood Vet Clinic, 1055 Grass Valley Hwy (885-1919), April and May, 9 AM to 12 Noon and 2 to 3 PM (appointment preferred)
- North Fork Vet Clinic, 3045 Grass Valley Hwy (888-8788), May 13, 1 to 4 PM
- South Auburn Vet Hospital, 307 Sacramento Street (823-6310), Saturdays 8 AM -12 Noon with an appointment during April and May

#### Colfax

· Colfax Vet Hospital, 1333 Hwy 174 (346-2297), during normal business hours in April and May, with an appointment

#### **Granite Bay**

· Granite Bay Vet, 6500 Douglas Blvd. (916-791-1143), May, Thursdays, 2 to 5 PM

#### Lincoln

· Lincoln Pet Clinic, 870 East Ave. (916-645-3866), May 22 to June 3, by appointment, cash only

#### Loomis

· Loomis Basin Vet Clinic, 3901 Sierra College Blvd. (916-652-5816), May 14, 1 to 3 PM

#### **Meadow Vista**

· Meadow Vista Vet Clinic, 17120 Placer Hills Rd. (878-2009), April 22, 12:30 - 2:30 PM and May 20, 12:30 to 2:30 PM

#### **Rocklin**

· Rocklin Rd. Animal Hospital, 4730 Rocklin Rd. (916-624-8255), May 13, 1 to 3 PM

#### Roseville

- All American City Vet, 123 Washington Blvd (916-783-4646), April 29, 2 to 4 PM
- Atlantic St. Animal Hospital, 1100 Atlantic St. (916-783-4655), Saturdays, 8 AM to 2 PM, April and May
- Bird/Pet Clinic of Roseville, 4010 Foothills Blvd. (916-773-6049), April 15 and May 20, 1:30 to 3 PM
- Douglas Blvd. Vet, 3970 Douglas Blvd. (916-791-1111), May 13, 12:30 to 2 PM
- Johnson Ranch Pet Hospital, 9260 Sierra College Blvd, Ste. #250 (916-774-6630), May, Wednesdays, 2 to 5 PM
- Roseville Vet Hospital, 810 Riverside Ave. (916-782-2123), May 13, 1 to 3 PM



## **Supervisor Honors Local Volunteers**

April 11, 2000

"Our entire community benefits from the many volunteer hours you spend with local children," said Supervisor Jim Williams, as he presented a plaque to commemorate Caring About Kids Week, April 9 - 15, to mentors and staff from the local non-profit organization, Caring About Kids. "Spending time with children is one of the best investments you can make in their future, and in our own. On behalf of the residents of Placer County, I offer my thanks for your generous contribution." he said.

Ten mentors from Caring About Kids joined Debra Lambrecht, Executive Director of Caring About Kids, and Melinda Call, the Family Advocate at Rock Creek School, a position supported by Placer County. The 10 volunteers represented over 700 mentors from the organization who work with children in Placer County. Since 1997, Caring About Kids mentors have spent over 38,000 hours with local children.



Back 1-r - Gene Baker, George Costanich, Barbara Chavez, Melinda Call, Cheryl Axton, Beryl Mayne, Paul Nystrom, Valerie Hensley

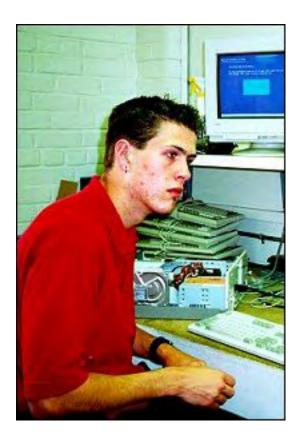
Front l-r - Supervisor Jim Williams, Caring About Kids Executive Director Debra Lambrecht, Anne Holmes



### **ROP Students' Hard Work Pays Off**

April 10, 2000

After two months' work with Placer County Information Technology staff, Bear River High School students Wendy Lent and Brandon Lukenbill saw the results of their efforts. The two students have been working in the 49er Regional Occupational Program (ROP), learning computer repair skills. On Monday, April 10, the students helped deliver the fruits of their labors, nearly 70 personal computers, to representatives of the Placer County Office of Education (PCOE), so the computers can be used in county schools.



Lukenbill and Lent both seek careers in computer technology and, under the supervision of IT employees, have learned how to evaluate a computer, clean it, install hardware like CD or floppy disk drives, install an operating system, and prepare the computer for delivery to a new user like the Office of Education.

Placer County Administrative Services and the IT and Procurement Divisions have managed the county's nearly three-year-old surplus equipment donation program. While the machines are at least three years old and can no longer do the work the county needs, they are often quite serviceable for computer use or training. The Office of Education has received the large majority of the equipment. Representatives estimate they've received over 500 computers and other pieces of equipment in the past three years.

This is the final year for the computer donation program, as Placer County has reduced expense by changed from purchasing computer equipment to leasing equipment. That means older PCs are returned to the leasing company when the county replaces them, rather than declared surplus equipment.



#### **Auburn Animal Shelter Hours Now More Convenient**

April 3, 2000

Taking care of personal business during the week during normal business hours can be difficult for anyone who works during those hours. To make life a little easier for animal lovers, Placer County Animal Control is changing the hours of operation at the Auburn Animal Shelter, starting Monday, April 10.

"We want to make it easier for the public to visit the animal shelter and to use our services. It made sense to stay open beyond working hours," said Pat Claerbout, the program manager for Animal Control. "It's very difficult for a working person to handle pet-related needs during the week, and some things - like locating a lost pet - shouldn't have to wait until the weekend. We also hope people will visit the shelter during the week to find a new pet to join their family."

New Auburn Animal Shelter hours will be:

- 9 AM to 5 PM on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday
- 9 AM to 7 PM on Wednesday
- 9 AM to Noon and 1 PM to 5 PM on Saturday

The new Auburn shelter hours will make it more convenient for pet owners and animal lovers to:

- Check for a lost pet
- Adopt a new pet
- License an animal

Claerbout and her staff will evaluate shelter hours carefully in the next few months. They plan to be flexible and to adjust shelter hours to meet public needs, as shelter staffing levels allow. For more information on shelter services, call their office at 530-889-7315.

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## Public Health Week Focus on Preventing Youth Violence

March 31, 2000

During Public Health Week, April 3 through 7, and throughout April, Placer County is focusing on its efforts to prevent youth violence. "Violence prevention activities are important throughout childhood," said Dr. Richard Burton, Placer County Health Officer. "They start with the essential close relationship between parent and child, and continue throughout the child's entire development as he or she sees adults and older children making healthy choices and practicing healthy behaviors."

Many Placer County departments - the Courts, Child Protective Services, Public Health, the Sheriff's Office, and Probation, among others - with the Placer County Office of Education, have created an innovative set of programs and activities to reduce or prevent problems of youth violence. This group of partners also informs and educates community professionals and interested residents on the topic.

The Placer County Superior Court is holding a Youth Violence Symposium on Tuesday, April 18, to examine youth violence - its causes, its deadly effects and the best means of prevention. Presenters will include Attorney General Bill Lockyer; Michael Pritchard, noted advocate for youth; Dr. Isolina Ricci, Center for Children and the Courts; and representatives from the Placer County District Attorney, Sheriff, Health and Human Services Dept; and the Office of Education. The symposium costs \$35 and will run from 9 AM to 4:30 PM, at the Maidu Community Center, 1550 Maidu Drive, in Roseville. For more information please call 1-530-889-6578.

Youth violence ranges from the obvious, like physical abuse or assault to more subtle forms of violence, like verbal abuse of parents, or verbal abuse of other children or adults at school or in social situations. Youth violence problems span all groups - economic, cultural, racial, and religious - and affect people of all ages. It's also common in dating relationships and friendships. Dr. Burton emphasized that while formal violence prevention activities are important, the role of informal violence prevention training is also very valuable, like the healthy and positive examples set by all adults and older

children in a child's world.

Placer County efforts emphasize prevention, and hope for the future may be the best preventive measure. Based on current research and years of experience, county employees identify and work with at-risk youth, those more likely to develop problems with violence or illegal drug or alcohol abuse, which often leads to violence. Ongoing county-sponsored or supported programs to encourage a positive view of the future include:

- The Del Oro High School C.A.R.E. Program Concerned, Aware and Responsible for Each Other, a student-organized and run program to raise awareness about the problem of youth and domestic violence, and encourage individual responsibility in violence prevention.
- The Options Career Camp, a partnership between Placer County Health and Human Services and the U.S. Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest, to provide an annual week-long career camp for 28 high school students interested in resource conservation, forestry, or related careers with an outdoor and scientific emphasis.
- Young Men as Fathers YMAF, a program supported by the Placer County Courts, local alternative schools, and the Probation Department, to teach parenting skills, anger management, and other life skills to young men who are already fathers or who expect to become fathers in the future. The program serves nearly 230 young men per school quarter.
- Victim-Offender Mediation/Peer Court, a partnership between the Placer Peer Court and Placer Dispute Resolution Services, to allow those crime victims who wish it to meet with the offenders who committed the crime and go through mediation to try to "make things as right as possible." This program handles about 20 cases per year.



## **Census Questionnaire Assistance Centers Open**

March 31, 2000

With the Census 2000 currently underway, several Questionnaire Assistance Centers are available in Placer County to help residents who may have questions about filling out their census forms.

The County of Placer encourages residents to complete and mail in their census forms as quickly as possible, because approximately \$100 billion in federal funding is allocated to counties and cities based on information derived from the Census. For example, allocations of federal funding for local housing assistance, school lunches, hospitals and roads are derived using census data. Local Census officials indicate that Placer County could gain an additional \$700,000 in funding if everyone, including the estimated 3,000-4,000 residents missed by the 1990 Census, complete and submit their forms.

Residents should be watching for forms which can come in the mail or be delivered. People who don't receive forms should call 1-800-471-9424 or 1-800-471-8642 (for Spanish language assistance).

Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QACs) are open as follows:

Mondays, April 3 and 10 in Auburn, Placer County CalWORKS, 11519 B. Ave., 8 to 10 a. m.; Auburn Placer County Library, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Placer County Finance Bldg., 1 to 3 p.m.;

Tuesdays, April 4 and 11, Placer Count Finance, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.; Auburn-Placer County Library, 10 to noon; Placer Multipurpose Senior Center, noon to 3;

Wednesdays, April 5 and 12, Placer County Community Clinic, 11484 B Ave. Auburn, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.;

Thursdays, April 6 and 13, Placer County Finance Bld. in DeWitt Center, Auburn, 8 to 10 a.m.; Placer County Library in Rocklin, 10 to noon; Placer Multipurpose Senior Center,

noon to 3 p.m.;

Fridays, April 7 and 14, Placer County WIC Clinic, 11526 C Ave., 8 to 11 a.m.; Placer County Community Clinic (East), 11583 C Ave., 11 to 3 p.m.;

Saturdays, April 8 and 15, U.S. Post Office, Auburn Main Branch, 8 to 10 a.m.; Auburn Placer County Library, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The City of Roseville has established QACs in the following locations:

- City of Roseville Main Library Friday Apr. 7 (9 to noon) with Spanish and Russian language assistance available;
- City of Roseville Maidu Branch Library Friday, April 7 (1 to 3 p.m.) and Saturday, April 8 (9 to noon) with Spanish and Russian language assistance;
- Woodbridge Elementary School, Thursday Apr. 6 (3:15 to 4 p.m.) and Thur. Apr. 13, 7 to 9 p.m. (Open House) with Spanish assistance available;
- Cirby School, Mon. Apr. 3 (2:45 4 p.m.) and Mon. Apr. 10, (6:30 to 8 p.m. Open House) with Spanish language assistance;
- Sierra Gardens School, Wed. Apr. 5 (7 to 8 p.m. Open House) with Russian and Spanish assistance;
- Buljan Intermediate School, Tues. Apr. 4 (7 to 8 p.m. in library) with Spanish language assistance;
- Kaseberg School, Wed. Apr. 5 (3:30 to 5 p.m.) with Spanish language assistance;
- North Roseville Recreation Center, Tues. Apr. 4 (6 to 7 p.m.) with Spanish language assistance.

Residents who don't fill out Census 2000 forms will be contacted directly by the Census, since this is an obligation under the law. However the law also protects your privacy; no one is allowed to share information from the Census with other agencies, including other governmental agencies. Forms are available in languages in addition to English.



### **Board Seeks Applicants for Charter Review Committee**

April 24, 2000

Placer County Supervisors are seeking applicants to serve on the County's Charter Review Committee. This panel will review the County Charter and make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding amendments to the Charter, including placing a ballot measure on the Nov. 7, 2000 general election for voters to consider eliminating or consolidating certain elected offices.

A Charter Review Committee is appointed every five years by the Board to consider whether any aspects of the Charter should be considered for change. The Committee makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, however any changes must be approved by voters.

In this case, Supervisors want the Committee to first consider whether any elective offices should be consolidated or not, and to make a recommendation to the Board by July 1. Then the Charter Review Committee will discuss other possible changes.

The Charter Review Committee will have five members. The first meeting will be scheduled during the first week in May, with other meetings set by Committee members. Members will not receive compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel expenses. Meetings will be open to the public.

<u>An application</u> to serve on the Charter Review Committee is available here, or by calling the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors (530-889-4020), 175 Fulweiler Ave. in Auburn. <u>A sample of a completed application form</u> is also available. Questions about the committee should be directed to Michael Paddock, 530-889-4030.



## **U.S. Census Efforts in Placer County**

Posted 3/20/00

Every 10 years the US Census Bureau must count everyone who is living in the United States. This information helps determine where the federal government will spend \$100 billion on such things as hospitals, school lunches, housing and roads, and helps decide on boundaries between the districts of elected officials.

Placer County will receive money for our community based on information from the US Census. Each completed Census form makes a difference to our community.

The law protects your privacy. NO ONE is allowed to share census information with other agencies such as welfare agencies, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Internal Revenue Service, courts, police or the military.

You will receive a card in the mail telling you how you can receive a form in another language if you prefer. Your Census form may be delivered to your home by a Census worker in March, or may arrive by mail. It is very important that you list all residents on the form, including all children and all adults who live there.

Please mail these forms back as soon as possible in the envelope provided. If you don't send it back, Census staff will need to contact you directly.

You can call 1-800-471-8642 to receive information in Spanish regarding how to fill out the forms, or 1-800-471-9424 in English.

A list of Questionnaire Assistance Centers is being assembled and will be posted when available.

The U.S. Census also needs workers for part time or full time work in this area. Pay for field jobs is \$13.00 to \$14.50 per hour. Hours are flexible. Bilingual workers are particularly needed. To apply, call toll free 1-888-325-7733, or 530-295-2960.

Please help your community and Placer County by filling out and mailing in your Census forms as soon as possible.



## Symposium on Youth Violence Is Planned

March 17, 2000

An in-depth look at youth violence - its causes, its deadly effects and the best means of prevention - is the focus of an all-day symposium being planned for April 18 by the Placer County Superior Court and numerous other county agencies.

Organizers hope to attract leaders from civic, religious, educational, social, community and government to examine the nature and causes of youthful violence. This symposium will focus on the child, who can be either a victim, or a perpetrator, or both.

"Violence prevention is one of the most important goals upon which we need to focus," said Judge James D. Garbolino, one of the Symposium organizers. "If we expect that our children and grandchildren will be able to live in healthy, non-violent communities, we have to approach community violence by starting with kids. Violence is learned behavior, and we have to teach children how to resolve conflict in a socially acceptable manner."

Program highlights include a look at the children who are affected, information on school violence, what happens when children grow up with violence in the home, and the impact of the media on violent behavior. Presenters include Attorney General Bill Lockyer; Michael Pritchard, noted youth activist; Dr. Isolina Ricci, Center for Children and the Courts; and representatives from the Placer County District Attorney, Sheriff, Health and Human Services Dept; and the Office of Education.

"Our neighborhoods in Placer County are beautiful and safe," noted Judge John Cosgrove. "However, we can't let that blind us to our responsibility to protect our children, and our community's role in preventive activities. We hope to attract parents, teachers, counselors, business persons, religious government leaders and others."

The Youth Violence Symposium will take place on Tuesday, April 18, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Maidu Community Center, 1550 Maidu Drive, in Roseville. Cost for the

Symposium is \$35. To register for the symposium, send a check with your name and address to the Youth Violence Symposium, Placer County Superior Court, Historic Courthouse, 101 Maple St., Auburn, CA 95603. For more information please call 1-530-889-6578.



### **Planning for Open Space Protection Continues**

March 15, 2000

Stately oak groves, farm lands and orchards, forest and hillside vistas, and small stream corridors - all are among the kinds of open space conservation being considered as Placer County seeks to move forward with an open space and farm land protection program called Placer Legacy.

The Board of Supervisors will consider a program later this year, and wants to hear from county residents and others who are interested before making key policy decisions on the Placer Legacy program.

A series of Open Space community forums has been planned for the next three weeks, where residents may take a closer look at some options to be considered and offer input to the Board.

"This program will help shape the quality of life in our county for generations," said Board Chairman and District 3 Supervisor Harriet White. "It's vital we listen carefully to those who live and work in Placer County, to hear what they have to say about Placer Legacy."

#### The forum schedule is as follows:

- In Roseville on Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Placer County Fairgrounds, Lauppe Bldg., 800 All American Blvd.;
- In Rocklin on Wednesday, April 5, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Rocklin Sunset Center, 2650 Sunset Blvd.;
- In Auburn on Thursday, March 30, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 710 Auburn Ravine Rd.;
- In Loomis on Tuesday, April 4, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 5945 Horseshoe Bar Rd.;
- In North Lake Tahoe on Monday, April 3, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Plump Jacks at Squaw Valley, 1920 Squaw Valley Rd.;

• In Lincoln on Thursday, April 6, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the McBean Pavilion, 61 McBean Park Dr.

Other meetings will be held with <u>municipal advisory councils</u>. Meetings coming soon include:

- Horseshoe Bar MAC on Tuesday, March 21, 7 p.m. at the Loomis Library, Library Drive
- Penryn MAC on Tuesday, March 28, 7 p.m. at the Penryn Elementary School, English Colony Way
- North Lake Tahoe RAC on Thursday, April 13, 6 PM, call 530-889-4010 to confirm location
- West Placer MAC on Thursday, April 20, 7 PM, Dry Creek Elementary School "Big Room," PFE & Cook-Riolo Roads
- Newcastle/Ophir MAC, Thursday, April 20, 7 PM, Suite 1, 661 Newcastle Road (United Auburn Indian Community Center)
- Weimar/Applegate/Colfax MAC on Wednesday, April 26, 7 PM, Placer Hills Fire District Station, 100 West Weimar Crossroads
- Granite Bay MAC on Wednesday, May 3, 7 PM, Eureka School Library, Eureka Road
- Meadow Vista MAC on Thursday, May 4, 7:15 PM, Room 22 of the Placer Hills School, Placer Hills Road
- North Auburn MAC on Tuesday, May 9, 7 PM, Planning Commission Chambers, B Avenue, DeWitt Center, Auburn

Supervisors expect to begin reviewing options next month, with a goal of considering a program in June. To date they have agreed:

- Open space conservation should involve only "willing sellers" and "willing buyers";
- Conservation should take place within the guidelines of current community plans;
- Conservation efforts should benefit both the community and the land owner;
- Protecting open space will require full community support.

Implementation options, to be considered next month by the Board, will eventually include items such as how best to conserve oak woodlands and agricultural resources; where to locate large, regional parks to create outdoor recreational opportunities; how to protect and enhance creeks; and how vernal pool conservation fits in with regulatory compliance issues.

After more than 18 months of public meetings, the Placer Legacy Citizens Advisory Committee has developed a set of recommendations on the choices for the program.

Committee Chair Joanne Neft said, "Attending one of the forums will give citizens a good idea of what Placer Legacy could mean in their neighborhood. We hope people will come, with many different opinions and thoughts, so we can take their recommendations on the Legacy options to the Board. It is important to protect open space for future generations."

Each forum will include a presentation on the Placer Legacy program and options on how to set program priorities, and recommendations from the Citizens Advisory Committee on the options available. Members of the public will be invited to ask questions and make comments.

The Citizens Advisory Committee has previously made many recommendations, such as creating large open space parks, a connecting network of trails, marketing locally-grown produce, establishing greenbelts between existing and proposed urban development, protecting riparian corridors and organizing education and volunteer programs to help protect biological resources.

To receive additional information including a complete list of CAC recommendations, forums and other meeting locations, visit the Placer County Web site (www.placer.ca. gov). Residents or businesses may call the Planning Dept. at 530-889-7470 to receive a newsletter or schedule a speaker for an organization.



## **County Applies for Permit for Sunset Industrial Area**

Feb.4, 2000

The County of Placer has taken an unusual step by starting the environmental review process to obtain a single Master Conditional Use Permit to cover 1,040 acres of industrially-zoned land in the Sunset Industrial Area (SIA).

By applying for and obtaining the permit, the County will cut the time businesses need for permitting from several months to less than 28 days for projects which fit the established zoning and qualify for expedited review.

"Permitting in 28 days will be a dramatic improvement for businesses who need to be able to make decisions and take action quickly," said District 2 Supervisor Robert Weygandt, who represents the area. "This tool provides the county with the best opportunities to attract high quality, primary wage earner jobs by being responsive to the needs of business in a highly competitive marketplace.

"We have compounded that strength by specifying in our Community Plans that residential development will not be allowed in the Sunset Industrial Area in order to protect businesses from conflicting land uses, such as issues regarding trucks and noise."

Through processing a permit, County will complete the necessary environmental review in anticipation of development so the property will be ready. Once the process is complete, likely in a matter of several months, Placer County will have another 1,040 acres of prime land which is planned and zoned for industry, and ready to develop very quickly.

Currently, businesses can expect to spend three to 12 months in the environmental review process and completing transportation studies where a conditional use permit has not been issued.

Placer County Supervisors approved both a Community Plan and a Redevelopment Project Area Plan in 1997. Applying for the Master Conditional Use Permit represents a County Applies for Permit for Sunset Industrial Area -- Placer County, Calif.

major step forward in implementing those plans.

"Our residents will be the direct beneficiaries of our commitment to quality development in the Sunset Industrial Area which is our local economic engine," said Weygandt.
"Having more primary wage earner jobs allows people to live and work locally, reduces future impacts on air quality and gives people more time to enjoy life."

Placer County's Sunset Industrial Area is located in unincorporated South Placer County, south of Lincoln, north of Roseville and east of Rocklin. There are numerous businesses already located in the Sunset Industrial Area including Herman Miller, TASQ, the Gap, Formica and Federal Express. The SIA includes 8,900 acres altogether -- nearly 14 square miles -- all of which is reserved for existing and future industrial development, or maintained as agricultural lands to protect the industrial area and allow for possible future expansion.



## Tahoe Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction Plan Is Released

Jan. 17, 2000

Tahoe City's Strategic Plan for Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction, created based on input received from Tahoe City property and business owners, has been released and will be reviewed by the Placer County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday in Auburn, at 175 Fulweiler Ave. The Plan identifies significant economic development and redevelopment needs.

Prepared by Claggett Wolfe Associates, the plan was based on one-on-one interviews with key business and community leaders, focus groups with business and property owners in Tahoe City, and on surveys sent to all property owners and businesses in the core area. It was written to serve as a prioritization of needs to implement the Tahoe City Community Plan and Tahoe City Redevelopment Plan developed over a period of months, also with extensive input from the community.

Totaling more than 100 pages, the plan sets priorities to aid Tahoe City businesses. Some portions would be completed through Placer County's Economic Development office, others through work by other agencies.

If the Board approves the plan, Economic Development staff will immediately begin taking a number of actions, including hiring a consultant to design additional parking facilities and a consultant to recommend an organizational structure within Tahoe City's business core for financing parking, operations and maintenance of community facilities and business improvement. Support for Commons Beach improvement planning will include more parking. The current development permit process will be reviewed and enhancements recommended. An image enhancement program will be implemented through development of a design guidelines brochure, storefront improvement grants and loans in coordination with the parking program, the identity program and signage at community gateways.

"Community members representing diverse perspectives have helped put this plan

together, and I commend all for their efforts," said Rex Bloomfield, District 5 Supervisor. "People will now begin to see more improvements which enhance business and the environment. Historic preservation of community values will be a cornerstone of the county's effort.

"Implementing this plan will also require a community-wide effort, and we look forward to beginning that work."

The plan identified projects underway as critical to the community's success. "... Tahoe City must work to capitalize on its lakefront location and position itself as an attractive destination to expand a visitors experience while visiting the area," the report said, citing the recent sidewalk project and proposed improvements at Commons Beach as key elements of achieving the goal. "..efforts to improve the appearance and image while maintaining its unique character will also enhance visitor perceptions and encourage them to stop in Tahoe City."

Actions to improve transportation services and parking availability, promote tourism at a local and regional level, simplify the permitting process, increase the affordable housing stock for employees and expand educational support for business owners and employees "will improve the community's opportunities for enhancing and expanding its economic base," according to the report which will become the strategic plan for economic development.

The focus groups and interviews provided the basis for these guiding principles for an economic development strategy:

- Promote community building and community identity as the most appropriate perspective of economic development;
- Retain and expand job opportunities for area residents;
- Prepare the workforce for tomorrow's opportunities;
- Provide high value services for existing and new businesses;
- Target support programs and services to small businesses;
- Build on economic and community strengths to best take advantage of opportunities;
- Target specific geographic areas as catalysts for economic development;
- Strengthen commercial gateways;
- Emphasize implementation with measurable results;
- Strive to achieve sustainable economic development;
- Build collaborative processes for institutional leverage: partnering between the public, private and nonprofit sectors, regional support networks and community based organizations.

Tahoe Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction Plan Is Released -- Placer County, Calif.

For more information, please contact the <u>Placer County Economic Development Office</u>, 530-889-4016.



#### White to Lead Board

Jan. 4, 2000

District 3 Supervisor Harriet White of Auburn will chair the Placer County Board of Supervisors in the year 2000, assuming the responsibility from District 2 Supervisor Robert Weygandt.

Supervisors held their reorganization election during today's meeting, also electing Supervisor Jim Williams as vice chairman.

Supervisors White and Williams both took office in January of 1997.



### **Agricultural Commission Meets, Seeks Input**

Jan. 4, 2000

Placer County's Agricultural Commission is expanding its scope of issues related to agriculture, and is hoping to involve farmers and the local community more in its responsibility of advising the Board of Supervisors on agricultural issues.

Monday's meeting, planned for 7 p.m., January 10 at the Placer County Planning Commission Hearing Room, will feature an update on the Placer Legacy agricultural conservation and open space preservation proposal. Residents are also welcome to advise commissioners about other agricultural issues they believe should be addressed. The Planning Commission room is located on Richardson Drive between B and C Avenues, DeWitt Center, in Auburn.

Commissioners are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and include farmers representing the various commodities grown in Placer County.

Historically the commission has limited its recommendations to Williamson Act and similar topics, but now plans to expand its focus to address land use related to agriculture, water topics, the super Williamson Act and other issues relative to the preservation of agricultural interests. The Ag Ad Hoc Committee includes agricultural organization leaders.

In 1998 the commission signed a joint resolution with the Placer County Water Agency recommending the Board of Supervisors ban the gas additive M.T.B.E., and also sent the Board a recommendation for a stronger right to farm ordinance.

For a complete copy of the agenda, a meeting schedule and other information, call the Agricultural Commissioner's office at 530-889-7372.



#### 2000 PlacerGROWN Farm Conference

January 4, 2000

"The Sixth Annual PlacerGROWN Farm will be held on Saturday, February 5th, 2000," announced PlacerGROWN President Bob Roan. This year's conference will feature innovative Monterey County rancher, George Work, as the keynote speaker.

One of the major strands at this year's conference will cover agro-tourism and farm stays as a way to build farm and ranch revenue. The other major strands include:

- Sustaining Placer County Agriculture
- Organic Farming
- Innovative Livestock
- Marketing Success Stories
- Getting Started in Farming

There will also be in-depth sessions on *Growing and Marketing Mandarins and Wine Grapes*, and a new addition to the conference, an elementary school teacher in-service training on how to use agricultural curriculum material in the classroom.

The conference will be held at Lincoln High School, 790 J Street in Lincoln, from 8:00 a. m. to 3:30 p.m. Early registration is due by January 14, 2000. The cost is \$30 per person, which includes all sessions, a trade show, and lunch. Registration at the door is \$35 per person, but lunch is not guaranteed. For more information, call:

PlacerGROWN - (530) 889-7398 The UC Cooperative Extension Office - (530) 889-7385.